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ABSTRACT

The Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) is a summer employment program for youth ages 15 through 18 from all segments of society. The program provides teenage employment and accomplishes conservation work on public lands. This hearing provides testimony by participants and directors in or related to the Corps to request funding for the YCC. The opening statement is given by Chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment, Peter H. Kostmayer. Statements are also given by: (1) Allyssa Prazenic, member, Pennsylvania Conservation Corps; (2) Eleazar Dominguez, member, Pennsylvania Conservation Corps; (3) Virginia Crouch, graduate, Youth Conservation Corps; (4) Carlton Williams, ranger supervisor, Fairmont Park; (5) Paul McCloskey, Jr., Chair, House Commission on National and Community Service; (6) David Moffitt, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Assistant Director, Visitor Services; (7) William Hartwig, U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish & Wildlife Service, Deputy Assistant Director, Refuges and Wildlife; (8) Jay Lamar Beasley, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Deputy Chief for Administration; (9) Peter Engbretson, executive director, Philadelphia Ranger Corps; (10) Don Mathis, director, Pennsylvania Conservation Corps; (11) Richard Bernheimer, interim director, California Conservation Corps; (12) Kathleen Selz, executive director, National Association of Service and Conservation Corps; (13) Margaret Rosenberry, Youth Service America, director, finance and administration; and (14) Destry Jarvis, executive vice president, Student Conservation Association. The document contains a Conservation and Service Corps Profiles chart which highlights the various programs. The appendix contains two letters submitted for the hearing record. (KS)

YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAMS

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ED354139

OVERSIGHT HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED SECOND CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAMS

HEARING HELD IN WASHINGTON, DC
MARCH 31, 1992

Serial No. 102-41

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YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAMS

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1992

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC.

The subcommittee met at 9:00 a.m. in room 2226 of the Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Peter H. Kostmayer (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

OPENING STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN PETER H. KOSTMAYER

Mr. KOSTMAYER. The Subcommittee will come to order.

A number of studies have cited the enormous benefits of the depression-era Civilian Conservation Corps in developing recreation facilities in thousands of local, state and federal parks and forests, while giving hundreds of thousands of unemployed people an opportunity for work. Now there are more contemporary examples.

The Youth Conservation Corps programs have emerged as one of the few new initiatives in park and natural resources staffing since the 1970s and 1980s. The federally-run Youth Conservation Corps program has inspired the development of over 70 existing state, city and county conservation corps programs.

These programs are based upon earlier federal models such as the CCC, but are essentially grassroots efforts. They successfully combine meaningful projects that benefit the general public with job experience, career skills and educational incentives.

An important benefit of corps programs, in addition to the employment factors, is the hands-on experience in environmental stewardship that they offer young people—experiences that provide a greater stake in the natural heritage and contribute to building a critically needed conservation ethic in the country. In fact, there has been considerable testimony about the strong ties between responsible outdoor behavior and manual labor to protect and improve the land.

These programs are effective, particularly when you look at the figures and realize that the federal agencies receive an average of about $1.50 for every Young Conservation Corps invested. Yet the Administration has not requested any funding since 1984.

Across the Nation, Youth Conservation Corps are forced to turn young people away from programs because of a lack of funding. And agencies at all levels of government are facing maintenance and rehabilitation backlogs that amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The Administration has continued to avoid requests for funding for the Youth Conservation Corps program in a time when unemployment is rising and crimes among young people are becoming epidemic. Researchers have concluded that the social investment in the Job Corps programs offers a 46 percent rate of return to society on an annual investment of about $13,000 per young person. Yet the Administration chooses instead to spend about $38,000 annually on the cost of incarcerating a young person.

There is an 18 percent unemployment rate among young people and an enormous backlog of conservation and maintenance work on public lands throughout the country which, because of budget cuts, will not be completed. Youth Conservation Corps programs can effectively and cost-efficiently address both of these problems.

Wendell Berry, in his book "The Unsettling of America," said that.

"Although responsible use may be defined, advocated and, to some extent, required by organizations, it cannot be implemented or enacted by them; it cannot be effectively enforced by them. The use of the world is finally a personal matter, and the world can be preserved in health only by the forbearance and care of a multitude of persons."

The Youth Conservation Corps programs have been a sound investment in the young people and in the land, offering employment to those who may not have otherwise had jobs, providing a means of accomplishing important work which would otherwise not be done, and building a corps of citizens who have learned about caring for our Nation's resources.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Kostmayer follows:]

STATEMENT OF HON. PETER H. KOSTMAYER

Many studies have cited the enormous benefits of the depression-era Civilian Conservation Corps in developing recreation facilities in thousands of local, state and federal parks and forests while giving hundreds of thousands of unemployed people an opportunity for work. Now there are more contemporary examples.

Youth Conservation Corps programs have emerged as one of the few new initiatives in park and natural resources staffing since the 1970's and 80's. The federally run Youth Conservation Corps program has inspired the development of over 70 existing state, city and county conservation corps programs. These programs are based upon earlier Federal models like the CCC, but are essentially grassroots efforts. They successfully combine meaningful projects that benefit the general public with job experience, career skills and educational incentives for their members.

An important benefit of corps programs in addition to the employment factor is the "hands-on" experience in environmental stewardship that they offer young men and women; experience that provides a greater stake in their natural heritage and contributes to building a critically needed conservation ethic. In fact, there has been considerable testimony about the strong ties between responsible outdoor behavior and manual labor to protect and improve the land.

These programs are visibly effective—particularly when you look at the figures and realize that the federal agencies receive an average of $1.50 on every Youth Conservation Corps dollar invested; yet the administration has not requested funding since 1984. Across the nation, youth conservation corps are forced to turn youths away from the programs because of a lack of funding; and agencies at all levels of government are facing maintenance and rehabilitation backlogs into the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The administration has continued to avoid requests for funding of the Youth Conservation Corps program in a time when unemployment is skyrocketing and youth crimes are becoming a national epidemic. Researchers have concluded that the social investment in the Job Corps program offers a 46 percent rate of return to

society on an annual investment of $13,000 per youth; yet is has become this administrations choice to spend $38,000 annually on the incarceration of a youth.

There is an 18 percent youth unemployment rate and an enormous backlog of conservation and maintenance work on public lands throughout the United States which, because of budget cuts, cannot be done. Youth conservation corps programs can effectively and cost efficiently address both of these issues.

Wendell Berry, in his book "The Unsettling of America," said that, "Although responsible use may be defined, advocated, and to some extent required by organizations, it cannot be implemented or enacted by them. It cannot be effectively enforced by them. The use of the world is finally a personal matter, and the world can be preserved in health only by the forbearance and care of a multitude of persons."

Youth Conservation corps programs have been a sound investment in our youths and in our land: offering employment to those who may not have otherwise had jobs; providing a means of accomplishing important work which would otherwise not be done; and building a corps of citizens who have learned about caring for our nation's resources.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. I'd like to call our first panel. Mr. Carlton Williams, a Ranger in Fairmount Park in Philadelphia; Ms. Virginia Crouch, Youth Conservation Corps graduate; Mr. Eleazar Dominguez, Pennsylvania Conservation Corps member; and Ms. Allyssa Prazenica, Pennsylvania Conservation Corps member. If all of you would come forward.

Ms. Prazenica, if you'd begin.

PANEL CONSISTING OF ALLYSSA PRAZENICA, AND ELEAZAR DOMINGUEZ, MEMBERS, PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVATION CORPS; VIRGINIA CROUCH, GRADUATE, YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS; AND CARLTON WILLIAMS, RANGER SUPERVISOR, FAIRMOUNT PARK, AND GRADUATE, PHILADELPHIA RANGER CORPS

STATEMENT OF ALLYSSA PRAZENICA, CORPS MEMBER, PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVATION CORPS

Ms. PRAZENICA. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Subcommittee, for this opportunity to testify in support of the Youth Conservation Corps program.

My name is Allyssa Prazenica and I'm a Corps member for the PCC at the Jennings Environmental Education Center in Butler County, which is a rural area in western Pennsylvania.

I am 21 years old and I joined the Corps about four months ago.

I have recently acquired my Associates degree from Paul Smiths College in Forest Recreation. And being in the PCC has given me an opportunity to get a real taste of my degree.

I am involved with PennSERVE and the PCC's Youth Advisory Group, in which we reviewed and provided input for new Corps funds under the National and Community Service Act.

The point I'd like to make for the Subcommittee's consideration is when things get slow with our group, we would like to do a mixed variety of things for the community which would give us more publicity. A lot of people don't know about us. And I think by doing things for the community we would be able to get publicity.

And we would like more advanced training in our programs far beyond what we can do. We want to push ourselves even more.

And I'd also like to see more females. A lot of females don't think they can do what the men can do. But I'm proof. I can do just as good as the men can.

And we'd like life-skill classes also, somebody to come in and teach us to brush up on our math skills, our English skills, help us write resumes to find a better job.

And we have a recommendation for an Assistant Crew Leader position for an outstanding Corpsmember who has shown outstanding leadership. We'd like to have that position made also.

And I'd like to thank you. And I'd be glad to answer any questions you may have.

[Prepared statement of Ms. Prazenica follows:]

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

Submitted to the

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 31, 1992

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TESTIMONY ON YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS
TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND THE
ENVIRONMENT BY ALLYSSA M. PRAZENICA,
CORPSMEMBER, PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVATION
CORPS

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the Subcommittee, for this opportunity to testify in support of youth conservation corps programs. I am Allyssa Prazenica and I am a corpsmember with the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps at the Jennings Environmental Education Center in Butler County. Butler County is a rural area in western Pennsylvania.

I am 21 years old and I joined the Corps four months ago after earning my Associate Degree in Forest Recreation at Paul Smiths College. By working with the PCC, I'm getting a chance to put my newly-acquired knowledge to use. My crewleader Larry Hayes supervises my work along with that of the four other corpsmembers on my crew--all of whom are males. Among the projects that I've worked on are trail maintenance and clearing brush from a power line. We used this brush to make habitats for rabbits, birds, and other wildlife.

The PCC's corpsmember development services also have been good for me. My crew visited with another PCC crew at Prince Gallitzin State Park and learned new aspects of maintaining a very large state park. We also had a career exploration visit at a local plate glass factory which helped all of us better understand what employers are looking for when they hire workers. It also made us better good about working outside in natural settings. Finally, I have been involved with PennSERVE's and the PCC's Youth Advisory Group which reviewed and provided input into Pennsylvania's application for new corps funds under the National and Community Service Act.

The other corpsmembers and I discussed the kinds of points that I want to now raise for the Subcommittee's consideration. First, we would like to do a mix of community service projects with our environmental work. Clearing prarie can get boring and we would like to do projects like building a playground for pre-school children or fixing up an abandoned building for use as a community center. We have a lot of energy and good ideas and we would like to put them to good use. Second, we would like more advanced training in our projects, using power tolls and other kinds of different skill-building work. Third, we would like more publicity for the program. We are young people who are doing good and working hard and we know that other young people would join the corps if they knew about it. Fourth, we need more females in the corps--young women can work just as hard as young men. Fifth, we recommend that an assistant crewleader position be created for corpsmembers who have shown exceptional skills and the ability to supervise. Finally, we need more remediation classes and life skill classes for our corpsmembers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I would be glad to answer any questions.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Thank you very much.
Sir.

STATEMENT OF ELEAZAR DOMINGUEZ, CORPS MEMBER, PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVATION PROJECT

Mr. DOMINGUEZ. My name is Eleazar Dominguez. I am a Corps member of the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. I work in the Landes Valley Museum.

I am 19 years old and when I started this program I was unemployed, and I was receiving financial assistance from welfare. And suddenly the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps came to my rescue. And I'd like to tell you the experiences I have had in the Conservation Corps.

I've seen people come into this program without the knowledge of being able to read a tape measure or identifying tools. And at this point, these people are sufficiently able to tell you what kind of measurements or what to do in certain cases.

I'd like to tell you that this program is working and that it's done a lot for me and a lot for other people.

To tell you about the commitment I have and the commitment we have to PCC over at Landes Valley Museum, I'd like to give a small testimony about how interested we are in this program and how good this program's been for us.

As it came up one day, I had bought a car to get to work. And when I started work I saw some guys that were being interviewed. And I offered them a ride.

All of a sudden, my car broke down and, as a commitment to Pennsylvania Conservation Corps, I made up my mind to stay out late till probably 4:00 in the morning just trying to fix the gas tank so that that next day I could get to work.

I just wanted to show the other guys that if it's important to me, that's how important it has to be for them. Teamwork really works. And it was important to me at that time.

So I'm grateful for this opportunity to give testimony on the side of the Youth Conservation Corps.

Thank you for letting me testify.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Dominguez follows:]

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

Submitted to the

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 31, 1992

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TESTIMONY ON YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS
TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND THE
ENVIRONMENT BY ELEAZAR DOMINGUEZ, CORPSMEMBER,
PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVATIONS CORPS March 31, 1993

Chairman Sharp, Chairman and members of the Subcommittee, for this opportunity to testify in support of youth conservation corps programs. My name is Eleazar Dominguez. I am a corpsmember with the Landes Valley Museum project of the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps. The Landes Valley Museum is in Lancaster County in the central part of the state.

I am nineteen years old and I am married. My wife and I have a two year old daughter. Six months ago, I enrolled in the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps (PCC). Before joining the PCC, I was unemployed and my family was on public assistance. I realized that I could and needed to do better for my family.

The PCC provides me with hands-on experience in the real world of work. My tasks involve power tools which I use for restoring historic buildings on the museum grounds. I'm learning a lot from my crewleader who is a skilled carpenter.

The PCC has helped me improve my teamwork skills. Working with others has helped me develop my leadership abilities as I have been helping other corpsmembers whose skills are at the beginning stage. But the teamwork idea of our crew extends beyond just helping each other with tools. We support and encourage each other. For example, for a while I was driving my car to pick up the other corpsmembers on my crew to come to work. My car is old and not always in good shape. One day the gas tank fell off, and I had to get up at 4 o'clock in the morning to reattach it and fix it. I did this to show the other members of the crew that this job is <u>really</u> important to me. And I did that to show them that if it is really important for me to help them get to the work site, that it should be considered important to them. In the PCC, we help each other out to get the job done.

I also am grateful for some of the opportunities that the Corps has given me to experience new things. Yesterday, I spoke before the Commission on National and Community Service about how the PCC helps me and why funding for corps is important. In January, I testified at one of the PCC statewide hearings about the new federal funds.

The PCC is not perfect and there are some ways that it could be improved. I want to be able to use my experience in the PCC to get a good job using my new skills. I hope that the Corps will help me with resume writing and help me "sell myself" to an employer. Many of my Spanish-speaking friends could join the PCC or do better in the PCC if there were some English classes.

I hope that this Subcommittee will support youth conservation corps as programs like the PCC really help young people like me as we work to improve the environment and do other worthwhile projects. Thank you for inviting me to testify today.

SERVE • EARN • LEARN

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Thank you very much.
Ms. Crouch.

STATEMENT OF VIRGINIA CROUCH, GRADUATE, YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

Ms. CROUCH. Thank you.

I'm glad to testify on the impact that the Youth Conservation Corps program had in my life. The opportunity to work in YCC gave me specialized scientific knowledge, conviction about environmental issues, appreciation for botanical study and connections important in future work.

For me, YCC served as an outstanding educational program and a major influence in my course of study and choice of career.

I entered Rock Creek Park's YCC program in the Summer of 1986, after finishing high school. The Resource Manager at Rock Creek was asked to send one student to the Plant Ecology of the Center for Urban Ecology, a research unit of the Park Service. And, because of transportation difficulties, I was selected for that duty.

In the Plant Ecology Lab, I worked with a research biologist studying invasive exotic vines, such as kudzu, English ivy and wisteria. He was interested in their impact on native species and in finding methods of removing the alien plants in such a way as to restore the native plant communities they had displaced.

Three technicians worked for him—two botanists and one resource manager. My time was spent in the field with these technicians, in kudzu treatment centers storing species and monitoring data from the treatment plots.

Through this work I gained knowledge which was new to me and which I would have been unlikely to encounter anywhere else. The people supervising me took seriously their responsibility to educate me. But most of what I learned was simply from being immersed in the work of the exotics project.

I saw how botanists and ecologists do their work, learning about experimental design, vegetation sampling methods and the books used by taxonomists and ecologists.

I learned the names of plant species and the way plant populations interact in communities.

While learning about exotic species and native plant communities, I gained the conviction that invasions of exotic species are a means of human destruction of the natural vegetation of a place. As human beings, we are responsible for creating this problem and, hence, we are responsible for correcting it.

I began to grasp the basic environmental principle of humility, that we know little about the natural world. And it is easy to cause damage when our actions affect something we do not understand. Protecting native species from willful, ignorant or wasteful destruction became one of my general goals.

Proximity to the people in the Plant Ecology Lab inevitably produced an appreciation for the work they did. I observed how much they genuinely enjoyed any opportunity to learn more about plants in ecosystems they worked with.

Obviously, identifying plants was an exciting pursuit as was observing plant competition in action. This sparked in me a strong desire to study botany, although I had planned to concentrate my studies in other areas.

My YCC supervisors also provided a good connection which is important in the work I've done since. One of the botanists, Gene Cooley, gave me the name of a plant taxonomist at William and Mary whom he knew through endangered species work. At college I began working for her and she became one of my thesis advisors and a close friend.

The other technicians were careful to explain to me how to apply for Park Ranger jobs and gave the names of people to talk to at various parks.

It might be useful to trace what I've done since the Summer of 1986, as many of the decisions I've made since then have had their roots in that summer's work. Before then, I considered myself a non-science person, adamantly attached to the idea of liberal arts study exclusively.

When I went down to school in August, I took with me a new desire to study botany. And during the Winter of my Freshman year, I decided to indulge that desire by attempting a second major in biology.

The following Summer I worked as a seasonal interpretive ranger. And then in the Summer of 1988, I was back at Rock Creek Park as a seasonal resource management ranger, working on the exotic species problems there. There was a small YCC camp that summer and I supervised the students one day each week.

After graduating with a double major in biology and history, I did botanical research and consulting work until hired by the Nature Conservancy in September of 1990. At the Conservancy I gather and organize information about rare plants in the National Forests. I plan to return to school to study plant community ecology.

The Youth Conservation Corps experience may not often be a source of changes as drastic as those it caused in my life, but there are some common elements I've seen in others experiences as well.

Service in the YCC provides a sense of accomplishment and responsibility, new skills and the ability to work with others. It also reliably provides a wider awareness of environmental conditions and a greater enjoyment of the natural world.

I'm very grateful that the YCC program exists and that I happened to hear about it and was able to participate.

[Prepared statement of Ms. Crouch follows:]

I was asked to testify on what impact the Youth Conservation Corps program had in my life. The opportunity to work in the Youth Conservation Corps gave me specialized knowledge about botany and ecology, conviction about ecological conservation issues, appreciation for the study of plants and plant communities, and good connections to people who would be important in future education and work. For me, YCC served as an outstanding educational program and a major influence in my course of study and choice of career.

In the spring of 1986, at the end of my senior year in high school, I applied to work at Rock Creek Park. The 20 students in that YCC camp were selected by random drawing from about twice that many applicants. The resource manager at Rock Creek had been asked to detail one of these students for the entire summer to the Plant Ecology lab at the Center for Urban Ecology (CUE), the research unit of

the National Park Service's National Capital Region. Because it was difficult for me to find transportation to Rock Creek Park, I was selected for that duty.

In the Plant Ecology lab was Lindsay K. Thomas, a research biologist studying invasive exotic (alien) vines such as kudzu, English ivy and wisteria. He was interested in their impact on native species and in finding methods of removing the alien plants in such a way as to restore the native plant communities they had displaced. Three technicians worked for him, two trained in botany and one in natural resource management. Most of my time was spent in the field with one or more of these technicians, either wielding clippers and a pulaski in kudza "treatments" or recording species monitoring data from the treatment plots. We worked at exotic-infested sites in several parks throughout the National Capital Region, in D.C., Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia.

Like most YCC students, I entered the program without any prior work experience. The YCC program, as my first job, formed my original idea of what work is like. I came away from the program thinking that work is basically enjoyable, interesting, challenging and often physically demanding. I also found that it is pleasant to work alongside another person, even when there is no talk for hours at a stretch—that sharing a task with other people is a better form of companionship than merely social activities.

Through my YCC work I acquired a great deal of knowledge which was new to me and which I would have been unlikely to encounter anywhere else. The people supervising me at the ecology lab took seriously their responsibility to provide an educational experience for me, using any idle time back at the lab for somewhat formal instruction, but most of what I learned was simply from being immersed in the work of "the exotics project." I learned about how botanists and ecologists do their work, about the scientific method in general, experimental design and vegetation sampling methods, and about the books and tools used by plant taxonomists and ecologists. I gained basic knowledge of the names of many plant species and about the way plant populations coexist and interrelate as communities. I saw several kinds of ecological disturbance and learned something of how natural communities recover from disturbance.

While learning about exotic species and their effect on native plant communities, I gained a conviction that invasions of exotic species are a means of human destruction of the natural vegetation of a place. As human beings we are responsible for creating this problem, and hence we are responsible for correcting it. (This is the first environmental conviction I remember having). What I learned about what the Federal government had done to encourage the spread of these exotic vines, and why, I began to grasp the basic environmental principle of humility: that we know little about the natural world, and it is easy to cause damage when our actions affect something we do not understand. Protecting native species from willful, ignorant, or wasteful destruction became one of my general goals.

Proximity to the people in the plant ecology lab inevitably produced an appreciation for the work that these scientists did. I observe how much they genuinely enjoyed their work and enjoyed any opportunity to learn more about the plants and ecosystems they worked with. Obviously, identifying plants was an exciting pursuit, as was observing plant competition in action. Simply put, I noticed that botanists have fun in the woods. This observation sparked in me a strong desire to study botany, although at the time I felt that my decision to concentrate my studies in other areas was final and inevitable.

My supervisors in the YCC program also, provided good connections which have been important to the work I've done since. One of the botanists, Gene Cooley, provided me with a particularly significant introduction. He gave me the name of a plant taxonomist at William and Mary whom he knew through work on an endangered species population on National Park Service land. During my first year of college I looked for and met this taxonomist, and began working for her in my second year of school. She became one of my thesis advisors and a close friend who has continued to educate me and (intermittently) to employ me ever since. The other technicians at CUE were careful to explain to me how to apply for Park Ranger jobs, and gave names of people to talk to at various parks.

It might be useful to trace what I have done since the summer of 1986, as many of the decisions I have made since then have their roots in that summer's work. Before then I considered myself a non-science person, adamantly attached to the idea of liberal arts and the study of history and literature. When I went down to school in August I took with me a new desire to study botany and during the winter of my freshman year I decided to indulge that desire by attempting a second major in biology. The following Washington National Historical Park. In the fall of my sopho-

more years I began working in the college herbarium for Donna Ware, the botany professor Gene Cooley had told me about. This I continued until graduation.

In the summer of 1988 I was back in Rock Creek Park as a seasonal resource management ranger, working under one of their permanent vegetation management specialists to continue K. Thomas's work on the exotic species problems there. There was a small YCC camp that summer and I supervised the students about one day each week. In my junior year I began a research project on the flora and vegetation of the College properties. After graduating with a double major in Biology and History, I did freelance botanical research and consulting work until I was hired by The Nature Conservancy in September of 1990. At the Conservancy I gather and organize information about rare plants on the National Forests. I plan to return to school to study plant community ecology.

Two YCC graduates from the George Washington Memorial Parkway and one from Yorktown National Battlefield Park have also spoken with me about their experiences. They cited the hard work involved in the program as a challenge which encouraged growth in character. One mentioned friendships with fellow YCC students which have lasted for years afterward. Besides learning about trail maintenance and basic forestry skills, one received training in fire suppression. All had a reinforced sense of environmental responsibility and a heightened enjoyment of extended outdoor activities. One of the three is now in a graduate program studying plant ecology and population genetics, with an emphasis on plants' resistance to air pollution. Another is doing graduate work in physics, and the third is with a consulting company working to promote environmental efficiency in electric power companies.

I doubt that the Youth Conservation Corps experience is often a source of changes in direction as drastic as those I have described in the paragraphs about my case, but there are some common elements in my experience and that of others I have known as a friend or supervisor. The general case seems to be that service in the YCC is a strengthening experience, providing a sense of accomplishment and responsibility, new skills, and the ability to work with others. It also seems to reliably provide a wider awareness of environmental conditions, and a greater enjoyment of the natural world. I am very grateful that the YCC program exists, and that I happened to hear about it and was able to participate. I benefited greatly from the conscientious service of the particular people who were involved in my YCC experience, but I believe that many students from other camps as well as those from Rock Creek Park would join me in being grateful for the opportunities afforded by the YCC program which would not otherwise have been available.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Thank you very much.

Mr. Williams.

STATEMENT OF CARLTON WILLIAMS, RANGER SUPERVISOR, FAIRMOUNT PARK, AND PHILADELPHIA RANGER CORPS GRADUATE

Mr. WILLIAMS. Good morning, Congressman Kostmayer and Honored Members of the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment.

I am Carlton Williams, a graduate of the Philadelphia Ranger Corps and a supervisor.

I am honored to present this testimony here today on behalf of the Youth Conservation Corps across the country. I believe my own and my colleagues' experiences show that Youth Conservation Corps experiences play a major role in youth development and they benefit society.

I am testifying for Youth Conservation Corps programs on behalf of the Philadelphia Ranger Corps, because this organization played a major role in helping me achieve my goals as a young adult. This Youth Conservation Corps program gave me the opportunity to become an active citizen in support of the environment.

Youth is an invaluable resource to benefit society. We have enormous energy and talents that can be used in many productive ways.

Unfortunately, in many cases opportunity for youth are limited and we sometimes use our energies to negatively affect the environment. Young adults turn to crime, join gangs, sell and use drugs and turn to violence and aggression.

We need opportunities to express ourselves positively. We need opportunities that allow us to build society instead of tearing it down. We need activities to help educate us to become assets to society. And we need experiences to provide us with the opportunity to build both the future of society and ourselves.

Youth Conservation Corps programs are one opportunity where society can channel youth's energy positively. Providing youth with the experiences and in Conservation Corps programs will encourage some of the future leaders of tomorrow. The experience we gain through Youth Conservation Corps programs builds character, self-confidence and self-esteem.

Youth Conservation Corps programs instill values of responsibility, teamwork, cooperation, leadership and decision-making. With these traits firmly in place, we can make some of the most effective leaders of tomorrow.

For youth to view themselves as productive individuals in our society, we must be provided with meaningful experiences that will show that the work we are doing is both important and beneficial. The development and support of Youth Conservation Corps programs will help us acquire these experiences. The experiences will help us continue to strive and become successful, productive adults.

There's no question about the significance of conservation in our society. Conservation is one important method by which we help preserve our environmental resources.

Youth Corps programs with emphasis on conservation benefits both the young adult and the environment. Youth Conservation Corps programs allow youth to work together and to develop and improve their surroundings and their environment.

Through Youth Conservation Corps programs youth learn the importance of taking pride in their community. Their efforts help the park, neighborhood and community become better places to live, work and visit.

The lessons youth obtain through Conservation Corps programs are carried and applied throughout life. These experiences will result in appreciation and protection of our environmental resources for future use.

I have learned the importance of conservation because I work for the Philadelphia Ranger Corps. The Philadelphia Ranger Corps is a non-profit organization with the dual mission of youth development and community service.

Members consist of young adults across the City of Philadelphia. They get the opportunity to further their education and obtain work experience simultaneously.

Members are hired as Park Ranger candidates working as Rangers full-time in the Summer and part-time in the Winter while attending college at Temple University. They are trained to provide

professional visitor services for Fairmount Park and the City of Philadelphia.

Rangers in the Ranger Corps specialize in providing service to the community. We take on conservation projects that enhance the appearance of the City of Philadelphia. Our projects and jobs are very diverse, ranging from clean-ups in the Park to educating children about environmental awareness.

The organization is geared toward teaching others the importance of preserving our natural resources. We apply the training we receive from the Ranger Corps to teach other to use the Park's resources. People helping people creates teamwork and cooperation. Together we wish to spread the message of environmental awareness to preserve it for future generations to use.

Involvement in a Youth Conservation Corps program, such as the Philadelphia Ranger Corps, has made a drastic change in my life. I've been working for the Ranger Corps for more than four years. During these four years I've acquired invaluable skills that have helped me in my development as a young adult. I've learned skills in cooperation, teamwork, leadership development and decision-making.

The organization also instills interpersonal values, such as self-confidence, self-esteem and critical skills, including interpersonal communication. The skills I've acquired through the Philadelphia Ranger Corps have helped me become a responsible and productive adult in society.

Becoming a member of the Philadelphia Ranger Corps has given me the sense of direction. After high school I found myself lost with virtually no place to go. I didn't have the financial support or the confidence to attend college.

I went to work at a job that didn't have much of a future for me. The job had no room for advancement nor any interest in my development as a young adult. I began to feel that I would go through life with nothing to look back on.

I became one of the first members of the Philadelphia Ranger Corps when it was established in 1987. Since becoming a member of the Philadelphia Ranger Corps, I have completed tasks that were very important to my growth as a young adult.

I have set goals for myself there were, at one time, considered to be unrealistic. The Philadelphia Ranger Corps has given me the opportunity to climb the ladder of success.

Today I'm a supervisor in this organization. I'm also attending college on a full-time basis. My target date for graduation is 1993. The Philadelphia Ranger Corps is playing a huge role in helping me achieve my educational goal.

Although I may not retire with this Youth Corps organization, I will certainly carry the skills and experiences I have acquired with them throughout life. These skills will serve as the foundation for building a successful and productive future.

In the future I wish to return to society what Youth Conservation Corps programs have given to me. I hope to serve as a role model for the youth of Philadelphia and instill the same positive values that I've learned.

As a supervisor in the Philadelphia Ranger Corps, I hopefully influence others to take pride in their community and themselves.

Through programs such as those that may be funded through the National and Community Service Act's American Conservation and Youth Corps, I will use the skills I obtained in the Philadelphia Ranger Corps to help young people understand the importance of conservation.

Teaching young people at an early age will teach them good habits. Hopefully, these habits will be contagious and spread from generation to generation. Through these programs, I hope to demonstrate what can be accomplished through education and hard work.

I hope this testimony will broaden your perspective on the impact Youth Conservation Corps programs is having on young people in society. I am only one example of how these programs are influencing young adults across the country. The positive effect of Conservation Corps programs, staffed by young people, on the environment is a major reason why there is a need for continued financial support from our government to continue these efforts.

Young people want to make a positive contribution to society to help ensure the appreciation and protection of our nation's precious resources. Consider Youth Conservation Corps programs as an investment that will help secure the future of our county.

Thank you.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Williams follows:]

The Importance of Youth Conservation Programs

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
for presentation to
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT
March 31, 1992
2218 Rayburn House Office Building
Oversight hearing - Youth Conservation Corps Programs

Carlton Williams
Age 23
Ranger Supervisor

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Congressman Kostmayer and honored members of the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment. I am Carlton Williams, a graduate of the Philadelphia Ranger Corps training program, and a ranger supervisor.

I am honored to present testimony on behalf of Youth Conservation Corps Programs across the country. I believe my own and my colleagues' experiences show that such programs play an essential role in our development while providing significant benefits to our society. I am testifying for youth conservation corps programs because the Philadelphia Ranger Corps played a major role in helping me achieve my goals. This youth conservation corps program gave me the opportunity to become an active citizen and supporter of the environment.

Youth is an invaluable resource for benefit to society. We have enormous energy and talents that can be used in productive ways. Unfortunately in many cases, opportunities for youth are limited and we sometimes use our energy in ways that negatively effect the environment. Young adults turn to crime, join gangs, sell and use drugs, and turn to violence and aggression. Young adults need ways to express themselves positively. We need opportunities where we can channel our energy productively; opportunities to build up society instead of tearing it down. We need activities that help educate us to become assets to society. We need experiences that provide us with the opportunity to build both the future of our society and our selves.

Youth conservation corps programs are one opportunity where society can channel youth's energy positively. Providing youth with experiences in conservation corps programs will encourage some of the future leaders of America. The experience we gain through youth conservation programs builds character, self confidence and self esteem. Youth conservation corps programs instill values of responsibility, teamwork and cooperation, leadership and decision making. With these traits firmly in place, we will make some of the most effective leaders for tomorrow. For youth to view themselves as productive individuals in our society, we must be provided with meaningful experiences that will show that the work we are doing is important and beneficial. The development and support of youth conservation corps programs will help us to acquire these experiences. The experiences will help us to continue to strive to become successful and productive adults.

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There is no question about the significance of conservation in society. Conservation is one important method by which we help preserve our environmental resources. Youth Corps programs with emphasis on conservation benefits both the young adult and the environment. Youth Conservation Corps programs allow youth to work together and to develop and improve their surroundings and the environment. Through youth conservation programs youth learn the importance of taking pride in the community. Their efforts help the park, neighborhood and community become better places to live, work and visit. The lessons youth obtain through conservation programs are carried and applied throughout life. These experiences will result in the appreciation and protection of our environmental resources for future use.

I have learned the importance of conservation because I work for the Philadelphia Ranger Corps. The Philadelphia Ranger Corps is a non profit organization with a dual mission of youth development and community service. Members consist of young adults from across the City of Philadelphia. They get the opportunity to further their education and obtain work experience simultaneously. Members are hired as park ranger candidates, working as rangers full time in the summer and part time in the winter while attending college at Temple University. They are trained to provide professional visitor services for Fairmount Park and public spaces in the City of Philadelphia.

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Involvement in a youth conservation corps program such as the Philadelphia Ranger Corps has made a drastic change in my life. I have been working with the Corps for more than four years. During these four years I have acquired invaluable skills that have helped me in my development as a young adult. I have learned skills in cooperation, teamwork, leadership development and decision making. The organization also instilled interpersonal values such as self-confidence, self esteem and critical skills, including interpersonal communication. The skills I have acquired through the Philadelphia Ranger Corps have helped me become a responsible and productive adult in society.

Becoming a member of the Philadelphia Ranger Corps has given me a sense of direction. After high school graduation, I found myself lost with virtually nowhere to go. I didn't have the financial support or the confidence to attend college. I went to work at a job that didn't have much of a future for me. The job had no room for advancement nor any interest in my development as a young adult. I began to fear I would go through life with nothing to look forward to, just wishing I had the opportunity to become somebody.

I became one of the first members of the Philadelphia Ranger Corps when it was established in late 1987. Since becoming a member of the Philadelphia Ranger Corps, I've completed tasks that were important in my

development as an adult. I have set goals for myself that were at one time considered to be unrealistic. The Philadelphia Ranger Corps has given me the opportunity to climb up the ladder of success.

Today I am supervisor in this organization. I am also attending college on a full time basis. My target date of graduation is set for 1993. The Philadelphia Ranger Corps is playing a huge role in helping me achieve my educational goal. Although I may not retire with this youth conservation corps organization, I will carry the skills and experiences I have acquired with them throughout life. These skills will serve as the foundation for building a successful and productive future.

In the future I wish to return to society what youth conservation corps programs have given to me. I hope I serve as a role model for youth in Philadelphia and instill the same positive values that I have learned. As a supervisor of the Philadelphia Ranger Corps I hopefully influence others to take pride in their community and themselves. Through programs such as those which may be funded through the National and Community Service Act's American Conservation and Youth Corps, I will use the skills I obtained in the Philadelphia Ranger Corps to help young people understand the benefits of conservation. Teaching young people at an early age will teach them good habits. Hopefully these habits will be contagious and spread from generation to generation. Through these programs, I hope to demonstrate what can be accomplished through education and hard work.

I hope this testimony will broaden your perspective on the impact that youth conservation corps programs are having on young people and society. I am only one example of how these programs are influencing young adults all across the country. The positive effect of conservation programs staffed by young people on the environment is a major reason why there is a need for continued financial support from our government to continue these efforts. Young people want to make a positive contribution to society to help ensure the appreciation and protection of our nation's precious resources. Consider youth conservation corps programs as an investment that will help secure the future of our country.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Thank you very much, Mr. Williams.

Let me ask you about the Philadelphia program. It's kind of an urban-oriented program?

Mr. WILLIAMS. That's correct.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And what kind of tasks are you engaged in?

Mr. WILLIAMS. Well, we engage in tasks like clean-ups in the park, running programs such as plant-a-tree programs. We bring school children out to the Park to teach them the importance of nature and environmental awareness.

We actually go out to schools and teach them the importance of the Park, because some of these urban kids don't actually get a chance to learn about the natural resources that we have in Philadelphia.

We try to bring the Park to them in their schools. We give ongoing programs to teach them about the ecology, environmental awareness and natural resources.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. How did you find out about the program?

Mr. WILLIAMS. I found out about the program through my father actually. He pointed out that they gave opportunity for me to advance in college, an opportunity that I had missed while I was in high school. And then I got the opportunity when I joined this organization.

Once I got into the organization, I really got into the natural aspect of it.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Is there a relationship—you're at Temple?

Mr. WILLIAMS. Yes, sir.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. There's a relationship between your work as a Ranger and your college education?

Mr. WILLIAMS. Yes, sir.

You have to go to school for two years at Temple University. You're considered a Ranger candidate for the first two years of the organization. And to graduate you must complete schooling at Temple University as well as performance in the Park.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And do you know how many young people in Philadelphia are participating in the program?

Mr. WILLIAMS. Yes.

There are 18 full-time Rangers today. And there are about 25 in training.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Is this a program, do you think, which may have diverted people from pursuing things much less desirable or not necessarily?

Mr. WILLIAMS. In a way it has diverted people from choosing less desirable ways. Because the opportunity to go to college—there's no obligation for you to join the program, so it allows you to gain skills so that, after the two years, you can use in any field that you like.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Let me just ask you finally, you say there are how many young people involved in the City in the program?

Mr. WILLIAMS. There are 18 full-time Rangers and 25 Class 4 candidates. And there's a Class 5 also; there's about 16 Class 5 candidates.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. If there were more money available, would more people be involved in the program?

Mr. WILLIAMS. That's correct.

A lot of my friends, a lot of my colleagues, a lot of people that even are older than young adults are interested in joining the Philadelphia Ranger Corps. So it has played an essential role in youth development and community service.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Ms. Prazenica, let me ask you how you got involved in your program?

Ms. PRAZENICA. I found out from the Job Service; they called me. I never even knew it existed until the Job Service called me.

Trying to get into this field is very hard, trying to get your foot into the door, they're giving me the chance to do that.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And this interested you because of the employment opportunities?

Ms. PRAZENICA. No. I love being outdoors. That's what I went to school for in Forest Recreation. So this has given me a chance. I have to start out somewhere.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. What are your ambitions in terms of going on after this?

Ms. PRAZENICA. I plan on going back to school and getting my bachelor's degree. And then, for future reference, I want to own my own tree nursery.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Great.

Ms. Crouch, how did you get involved in this?

Ms. CROUCH. I found out about Youth Conservation Corps from a flyer that was left on a table in my high school cafeteria.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. All right.

And has it been a worthwhile program, as far as you're concerned?

Ms. CROUCH. Very much, yes.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And what will you do after this? You'll go on professionally?

Ms. CROUCH. I'm working at the Nature Conservancy and I've applied to graduate schools in Plant Ecology. And I'm still waiting to hear from Chapel Hill. So I'm interested in studying Plant Ecology and applying that to conservation work, both here and possibly in Africa.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. All right.

Mr. Dominguez, how did you get involved in this?

Mr. DOMINGUEZ. Well, at the time I was unemployed. And I received a call from the Welfare Office. And they told me that they had an opportunity in a construction program.

I went out because I had a little bit of background and I was interested in getting references, because I had none. And the money, I didn't care about it; I cared about the experience I would get out of it. If I could get a reference to one day go out in the world and be able to hang onto something of mine for myself——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. So it's providing you with some income but also providing you with some training and some experience and some skills; is that right?

Mr. DOMINGUEZ. Yes, sir.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And do you think that the skills you're obtaining now will be helpful in getting work later on which will pay you a better wage?

Mr. DOMINGUEZ. Yes, sir.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And what do you hope to do later on?

Mr. DOMINGUEZ. Well, when I get out of this program, I hope that I can go out in the real world and be able to sell myself to employers or be able to have a job at least that will ensure my future for my family.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. How long will you be in this program?

Mr. DOMINGUEZ. Six months, and an additional six more months, so that will be a year.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. So a total of a year?

Mr. DOMINGUEZ. Yes, sir.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And what actual skills will you have at the end of that year that will be marketable?

Mr. DOMINGUEZ. Right now they're teaching us basic carpentry. And we work with auto power tools, tools that I really didn't know that I would work with before. I am really getting to work with them.

You see, our boss is like a walking computer. He puts in our minds concepts that we never even thought about.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. So at the end of this year you'll have carpentry skills and will be able to market those skills; is that what you hope to do?

Mr. DOMINGUEZ. Yes, sir.

I'll have the skills. And I'm hoping to learn through the program how to write a resume that will help me sell myself.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Just let me ask you, before you got involved in this program, you were unemployed?

Mr. DOMINGUEZ. Yes, sir.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. On welfare, I gather?

Mr. DOMINGUEZ. Yes, sir.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Okay. I appreciate your testimony.

The gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Chairman, this is very interesting testimony. I appreciate it and apologize for not getting in on all of it.

In each of your programs—and I understand they're somewhat different. But in each of your programs, do they emphasize skills and traits like showing up for work on time and keeping a schedule? Do they teach you the normal work processes like that beyond the particular skills of power tools and so forth?

Mr. WILLIAMS. Definitely.

It's like a professional organization and you have to be on time. If you don't meet the performance of what the job requires, you will be dismissed based on your performance and your time and attendance.

They need you there to perform this service and to perform a quality service in the Park. And if you're not there, you can't learn how to do something.

Mr. HEFLEY. So it's not just fun and games. They're really serious about it; is that right?

Mr. WILLIAMS. That's right.

Mr. HEFLEY. Is that true with all of you?

[All nod heads.]

Mr. HEFLEY. Who pays for your various programs, do you know that? The money for the program, where does it come from?

We can start with you, Mr. Williams.

Mr. WILLIAMS. The money is currently coming from a grant from the William Penn Foundation. And it's an organization that allocates money to non-profit organizations that specialize in community service, such as the Philadelphia Ranger Corps.

We're currently seeking future funding for the Philadelphia Ranger Corps for the continuance of the program.

Mr. HEFLEY. Ms. Crouch.

Ms. CROUCH. I've always assumed that Youth Conservation Corps funds are Interior Department funds, although I haven't checked that out.

Mr. DOMINGUEZ. Our fund money comes from the state.

Mr. HEFLEY. From the state, okay.

And you're in the same?

Ms. PRAZENICA. Yes, we're in the same.

Mr. HEFLEY. Well, there's some private funds then and federal funds and state funds in the three different programs.

As far as you know, is there any intermingling of private, state and federal funds in any one program?

I see some heads in the back of the room shaking yes, so maybe we'll be to that a little later.

Thank you very much.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Thank you.

I want to thank all of the witnesses for your testimony and congratulate you on coming here today. We very much appreciate it and it's been very worthwhile.

Thank you very much.

I call our second panel. Mr. William Hartwig, U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Deputy Assistant Director for Refuges and Wildlife; Mr. David Moffitt, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Assistant Director, Visitor Services; Mr. Jay Lamar Beasley, U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Forest Service, Deputy Chief for Administration; and the Honorable Paul McCloskey, Jr., Chair of the Commission on National and Community Service.

Congressman, we can begin with you if you want to start off. It's good to see you.

Mr. MCCLOSKEY. You have my statement?

Mr. KOSTMAYER. We do have your statement, yes.

PANEL CONSISTING OF HON. PAUL McCLOSKEY, JR., CHAIR, COMMISSION ON NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE; DAVID MOFFITT, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, VISITOR SERVICES; WILLIAM HARTWIG, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE, DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, REFUGES AND WILDLIFE; AND JAY LAMAR BEASLEY, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOREST SERVICE, DEPUTY CHIEF FOR ADMINISTRATION

STATEMENT OF HON. PAUL N. McCLOSKEY, JR., CHAIRMAN, COMMISSION ON NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. MCCLOSKEY. My thought is that rather than read the statement I would tell you that our Commission was established to fur-

ther the ethic of civic responsibility and given four separate types of mechanisms to do that, one of which is the very Youth Corps-type of operation of your first witnesses.

Unfortunately, our deadline—we only came into existence in September. Our deadline for applications is March 23. Between now and May 1 we will be deciding on the applications of 46 states.

This is the State of Kansas' application [indicating] in front of me. And out of 500-and-some Indian tribes in the Nation, for which we have $730,000 to allocate under your Act, which was passed in 1990, we have some 36 Indian tribes that have applied. This is the application of the Oneida tribe in New York. And their program is very interesting.

Because 44 percent of the tribe are below the poverty level. They have an application here to put four crews of eight kids to work in the Summer, 32 kids, at a cost of $93,000, about $3000 per young person.

We will be deciding, in the next month, how to make these grants to try to stimulate both the ethic of civic responsibility and particularly to develop young people leadership across the country.

And our major job, probably, Mr. Chairman, is to report back to you just after the first of this year or next as to what is cost effective and what is not cost effective in the Youth Service Corps and Conservation Corps and K through 12 service learning programs and higher education.

Our goal is a movement across the Nation to stimulate people to volunteer to do those things that government finds it so costly to do. And our major charge of finding what is cost effective, what works and what does not, it will be a year at least before we can give you a conscientious analysis of which programs might be increased and which might not.

You've given us $73 million to allocate for fiscal year 1992. One percent of it goes to Indian tribes; that's the $730,000. The other allocations are as stated in my statement.

I might say that there is a suggestion that this work be often done on federal land, so the assistance to Fish and Wildlife Service, to—we have seen superb volunteer efforts, both adult and youth, for example, in the Forest Service. Which of those we will implement and which we will not, we're not quite sure.

I have with me today our Executive Director, Catherine Milton; Shirley Sagawa, who was one of the draftsmen of the Act with Senator Kennedy; and our prime witness we hope you might interrogate is Alan Khazei, who runs the program in Boston, probably the most successful or at least one of the most successful youth programs in America.

He left Harvard Law School and, instead of going on to Wall Street to make millions of dollars, chose to form this volunteer program in Massachusetts.

And we'll be pleased to answer any questions you have.

[Complete statement of Mr. McCloskey follows:]

STATEMENT OF PAUL N. MCCLOSKEY, JR., CHAIRMAN, COMMISSION ON NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Mr. Chairman, my name is Paul N. McCloskey, Jr. Since September 25, 1991, I have been a member and served as Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the

Commission on National and Community Service. The Commission was created by the National and Community Service Act of 1990, signed into law on November 16, 1990. Its 21 Board members were confirmed by the Senate in late summer, 1991, and the first meeting of the Board was held on September 25, 1991.

With me are two members of the Commission's Executive Committee, Shirley Sagawa, and Alan Khazei, and Catherine Milton who has served as our Executive Director since early October, 1991.

The Commission's grant programs, along with others authorized by the legislation, are designed to create a continuum of service, both by age (involving everyone from preschoolers to senior citizens) and by time commitment (from a few hours a week to full-time for a year or more).

These programs fall into four major areas:

(1) Serve-America—This year, up to $16.9 million is available to States and Indian tribes for programs sponsored by schools or community-based agencies to involve school-age youth in service to the community. Serve-America also supports programs that involve adult volunteers in the schools.

(2) Higher Education Innovative Projects—Higher Education institutions, as well as public or private, nonprofit agencies working in partnership with those institutions, can apply for grants from a total of $5.6 million made available by this program. Funds will support student community service projects or teacher training in service-learning methods.

(3) American Conservation and Youth Service Corps Programs—Conservation and youth service corps programs can receive up to $22.5 million. These programs involve teenagers and young adults, and they provide job and skills training, living allowances, and scholarships. They may also include special corps members, such as senior citizens, who bring special skills to the program.

(4) National and Community Service Prorams—As many as eight States and Indian Tribes may share up to $22.5 million in FY-92 to test national service programs that will engage individuals ages 17 and older in full-time or part-time service. Participants will receive education or housing benefits upon completion of their term of service.

The Commission is in the midst of its first grant competition. Applications were due just last week.

46 States and 32 Indian tribes have submitted applications. I have two such applications in front of me, that of the State of Kansas and the Oneida Indian Nation of New York so that you may note their size. We are charged by the Act to review these applications, and for the subtitle C programs, to award grants on a competitive basis.

Between now and the Commission's next Board meeting on May 1, 1992, our staff and panels of outside reviewers will analyze these 64 Subtitle C applications as well as 392 applications we have received under the other programs. The panel and staff recommendations will be presented to the Board for a decision commencing May 1, and we expect our decision-making process will take the full three days of May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

We anticipate distributing the $22.5 million available for Subtitle C Programs to approved applicants as soon as may be physically possible after the May Board meeting so that they will be available for approved summer youth corps programs this year.

While Section 121 of Subtitle C gives the power to the Commission to make grants to the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior or to the Director of ACTION for the creation or expansion of full-time or summer youth corps programs, we have received no applications for grants for this purpose from either of the two Departments or ACTION. Under the Act the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior and the Director of ACTION sit as ex-officio members on the Commission's Board.

Section 122(d) of the Act requires that the Commission reserve not to exceed 5% of the $22.5 million available for full-time or summer youth corps programs for Federal disaster relief programs. The Commission has tentatively decided to set aside 1% for this purpose, but could increase this figure to the full 5% should there not be a sufficient number of qualified applications approved in early May. There are some other provisions of the Act that may be of interest to the Committee. Section 134 authorizes the Commission to develop, in cooperation with the heads of other Federal agencies, regulations designed to permit, where appropriate, joint programs. We have not yet begun such a process in view of what we have perceived as the primary importance of our grants-making responsibilities.

Section 179(a) requires the Commission to provide, through grants or contracts, for the continuing evaluation of the programs that receive assistance to determine the impact of such programs on the recruiting of individuals for each regular and

reserve component of the Armed Forces, the Peace Corps, VISTA, and the Older American Volunteer Programs. We take this responsibility very seriously.

Section 190(c)(1) of the Act requires the Commission to advise the President and Congress concerning developments in national and community service that merit their attention.

We are appreciative of the fact that in the President's Report to Congress, required by January 1, 1993 under section 190(h) of the Act, the President will be relying on our advice as to whether Federal volunteer, national and community service programs could be more cost-effectively and efficiently administered by a single Federal entity, and our recommendations concerning the roles and responsibilities of the Commission and other Federal entities in developing and coordinating National policy on voluntarism.

Once our grants-making process is behind us for this fiscal year, we are hopeful that a substantial portion of the time of the Commission and our staff can be turned to these two responsibilities of evaluation and advice.

We would welcome any questions the Committee may have.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Thank you, Pete, very much.

Mr. Moffitt.

STATEMENT OF DAVID MOFFITT, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, VISITOR SERVICES, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mr. MOFFITT. First of all, Mr. Chairman, there may be some confusion. More than likely, there is confusion in the Department in that I came thinking I was testifying for both Fish and Wildlife Service, and I see my colleague is here. So there may be some repetition in our testimony.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, you fellows will have to work it out. We're agreeable. It won't be the first time we've had some confusion here.

Mr. MOFFITT. I suspect so.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to appear before the Subcommittee today and provide you with information on the Youth Conservation Corps program within the Department of the Interior.

The 91st Congress enacted a bill in August 1970 creating a Youth Conservation Corps program with a budget of $3.5 million. The program subsequently grew each year. In 1980 the appropriation amounted to $60 million.

The program was jointly administered by the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture.

During those years Interior received 35 percent of the funds; Agriculture received 35 percent of the funds to implement the programs within their agencies.

The remaining 30 percent of the funds were jointly administered by Interior and Agriculture and made available as grants to the States and possessions in order to implement the programs on their public lands.

In the case of the National Park Service, the program grew from 340 participants in 1970 to approximately 5,000 in 1980.

In 1981 the program was changed significantly in that Interior and related agencies were required to fund the program from existing operating funds at a level that was not to be less than one million dollars a year or more than three million dollars annually. That requirement has continued to the present day.

In fiscal year 1990 the Department enrolled 1,268 young people in Youth Conservation Corps and expended $2,860,000 on the program.

Under the 1970 enabling statute, program requirements are as follows:

One, to accomplish needed conservation work on public lands.

Two, to provide gainful employment for 15 through 18-year old males and females of all social, economic, ethnic and racial backgrounds.

And, third, to develop in participating youth an understanding and appreciation the Nation's natural environment and heritage.

Work projects may vary depending on the geographical location and mission of the sponsoring agency. Typical projects completed in fiscal year 1990 included an erosion control project, landscape beautification, trail construction and maintenance, construction of boardwalks at fishing areas for physically disabled, range vegetation control, pest control, fence construction, maintenance and restoration of historical areas and monuments, just to mention a few.

In all cases, supervisors at each YCC site are required to provide a structured environmental awareness program for the youth involved.

Mr. Chairman, in closing, I must say the Department of the Interior is very satisfied with our Youth Conservation Corps program and feel that we, as an agency, benefit equally with the youth that participate.

During calendar year 1991, the Youth Conservation Corps enrollees accomplished $4,300,000 worth of needed work in the national park and wildlife refuge systems.

I have supplied the fiscal year 1990 Annual Report to the Congress on the YCC program.

This concludes my prepared statement, Mr. Chairman.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Moffitt, including attachments follows.]

STATEMENT OF DAVID L. MOFFITT, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, VISITOR SERVICES, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT, COMMITTEE OF INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCERNING YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAMS OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AND THE FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

March 31, 1992

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to appear before your Subcommittee today and provide you with information on the Youth Conservation Corps Program within the Department of the Interior.

The Ninety-first Congress enacted a bill in August 1970 creating a Youth Conservation Corps program with a budget of $3.5 million. The program subsequently grew each year and in 1980 the appropriation amounted to $60 million. The program was jointly administered by the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture. During those years Interior received 35 percent of the funds and Agriculture 35 percent of the funds to implement the program within their agencies. The remaining 30 percent of the funds were jointly administered by Interior/Agriculture and made available as grants to the States and possessions in order to implement the program on their public lands.

In the case of the National Park Service the program grew from 340 participants in 1970 to approximately 5000 in 1980. In 1981 the program was changed significantly in that Interior and related agencies were required to fund the program from existing operating funds at a level that was to be not less than one million dollars nor more than three million dollars annually. That requirement has continued to the present.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 1990 the Department enrolled 1268 young people in the Youth Conservation Corps, and $2,860,656 was expended on the program by the Department.

Under the 1970 enabling statute, program requirements are as follows:

1. To accomplish needed conservation work on public lands.
2. To provide gainful employment for 15 through 18-year-old males and females of all social, economic, ethnic, and racial backgrounds.
3. To develop in participating youth an understanding and appreciation of the Nation's natural environment and heritage.

Work projects may vary depending on the geographical location and mission of the sponsoring agency. Typical projects completed in FY 90 included erosion control projects, landscape beautification, trail construction and maintenance, construction of boardwalks at fishing areas for the physically disabled, range vegetation control, pest control, fence construction and maintenance and restoration of historical areas and monuments, just to mention a few.

In all cases, supervisors at each YCC site are required to provide a structured environmental awareness program for the youth involved.

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Mr. Chairman, in closing I must say that the Department of the Interior is very satisfied with our Youth Conservation Corps program and feel that we as an agency benefit equally with the youth who participate. During calendar year 1991, the YCC enrollees accomplished $4,302,763 worth of needed work in the national park and wildlife refuge systems.

Attached for the information of the Subcommittee is the most recent (FY 1991) annual report to the Congress on the YCC program.

This concludes my prepared statement, Mr. Chairman. I would be pleased to respond to any questions you may have.

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

WASHINGTON

March 19, 1992

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Enclosed herewith is the Annual Report on the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program in the Department of the Interior.

Section 5 of the Youth Conservation Corps Act, Public Law 93-408, requires a report be prepared annually detailing the activities carried out under the Act. To meet this requirement, I am submitting the reports from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service on the activities of the 1991 Program Year. These are the two bureaus in the Department of the Interior responsible for the YCC program operations in Fiscal Year 1991.

In my judgement, the successes detailed in this report are most indicative of the productive response being given to the human, natural and cultural stewardship agenda you and I have established for this department.

Respectfully,

Manuel Lujan Jr.

Enclosure

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

WASHINGTON

March 19, 1992

Honorable Thomas Foley
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Enclosed herewith is the Annual Report on the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program in the Department of the Interior.

Section 5 of the Youth Conservation Corps Act, Public Law 93-408, requires a report be prepared annually detailing the activities carried out under the Act. To meet this requirement, I am submitting the reports from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service on the activities of the 1991 Program Year. These are the two bureaus in the Department of the Interior responsible for the YCC program operations in Fiscal Year 1991.

Sincerely,

Manuel Lujan Jr.

Enclosure

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

WASHINGTON

March 19, 1992

Honorable J. Danforth Quayle
President of the Senate
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Enclosed herewith is the Annual Report on the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program in the Department of the Interior.

Section 5 of the Youth Conservation Corps Act, Public Law 93-408, requires a report be prepared annually detailing the activities carried out under the Act. To meet this requirement, I am submitting the reports from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service on the activities of the 1991 Program Year. These are the two bureaus in the Department of the Interior responsible for the YCC program operations in Fiscal Year 1991.

Sincerely,

Enclosure

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

FY 1991 PROGRAM

The Department of the Interior employed 1293 young people in Fiscal Year (FY) 1991 at Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) sites under the supervision of the National Park Service (NPS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). The total amount expended by the Department for the program in FY 1991 is listed as $2,330,511.

The YCC contributed to the completion of work projects in such areas as wildlife surveys and habitat improvement, visitor services, trail construction and maintenance, range and timber management, and water and soil conservation.

Specific reports from the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service citing their respective programs are included. The following statistics reflect the combined enrollee characteristics for FY 1991.

FY 1991 ENROLLEE CHARACTERISTICS

Total Number Served:

SEX	NPS	FWS	TOTAL NUMBER	NPS/FWS PERCENT
Male	409	350	789	59.00
Female	295	239	534	41.00
Total	704	589	1293	100.00
Ethnic Background				
American Indian	43	26	69	5.00
Asian/Pacific	6	1	7	1.00
Black	85	32	117	9.00
Hispanic	57	51	108	8.00
White	487	459	946	73.00
Other	8	2	10	1.00
Not Reported	18	18	36	3.00
Total	704	589	1293	100.00

Population of Home Community	NPS	FWS	Total Number	Percent
Up to 10,000	336	395	731	57.00
10,001 to 50,000	174	110	284	22.00
50,001 and up	60	33	93	7.00
Not reported	134	51	185	14.00
Total	704	589	1293	100.00
Education				
8th grade and below	24	19	43	3.00
9th grade	164	113	277	21.00
10th grade	191	171	362	29.00
11th grade	216	187	403	31.00
12th grade	95	94	189	15.00
Above 12th grade	14	5	19	1.00
Total	704	589	1293	100.00

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program in the National Park Service during the summer program activities employed 704 enrollees, including a reported 12 handicapped youth, for 8 weeks operating at 96 locations. The costs for camp operations were $1,137,473. Program direction costs at the regional and headquarter offices are estimated in excess of $65,000. The appraised value of work projects completed was $2,140,351 for a cost benefit ratio of $1.80 return on each dollar spent for the program.

WORK PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The National Park Service staff, enrollees and surrounding communities were very complimentary of the numerous projects completed during the summer. Each YCC project was designed to assure the fullest commitment on the part of the enrollees in the planning process. Among the most note-worthy projects that YCC enrollees participated in were:

- Fencing, construction and maintenance
- Landscaping, beautification and planting
- Trail construction, maintenance and improvements
- Timber management
- Pest control
- Drainage ditches and culvert maintenance
- Sign making and installing signs
- Timber stand improvement
- Erosion control projects

- Range vegetation control projects
- Restoration of historical areas and monuments

BENEFITS OF YCC TO THE ENROLLEES

Enrollees gained an appreciation of his/her natural, cultural, and/or historical heritage. Enrollees also earned money, learned how to work with others, and deal with their responsibility.

SUPERVISION OF YCC ENROLLEES

The YCC enrollees are supervised by park staff and integrated into the park operation activities. This enables the National Park Service to utilize the enrollees at various work sites throughout the parks. This is also a cost effective method of supervising small numbers of enrollees that can fit into the workforce to complete conservation type projects in the parks.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

The park supervisors are required to teach environmental awareness as a part of the work program so that the enrollees can learn: 1) why the project is scheduled, and 2) how the project is to be completed in order to assure that environmental concerns are an important factor in the development of the work plan. The work program is supervised by regular park staff who are innovative and talented in ways and means to share environmental concerns.

SAFETY

The park management makes a special effort to assure that safety is a top priority in planning and managing the YCC program activities. The safety record can be most favorably compared with regular National Park Service programs. The region and park safety officers have provided strong support and guidance for safe YCC operations in the Service.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employed 589 YCC enrollees at 167 sites in FY 1991. Expenditures totaled $1,128,038. The appraised value of all work completed was $1,761,563 making an estimated cost benefit ratio of $1.56 return on each dollar spent (See Recruitment).

RECRUITMENT

The difficulty in recruitment of females and minorities is a cause for concern to both the Youth Conservation Corps Coordinators and the field staff responsible for the program. Outreach efforts and increased public awareness efforts will be used to increase the number of applications.

BENEFITS OF YCC TO THE SERVICE

Needed facility maintenance was accomplished by the YCC enrollees who worked on building and ground maintenance, as well as labor intensive projects such as fencing and interpretative trails. Also, the majority of project leaders felt the program created good public relations within the local communities.

BENEFITS OF YCC TO THE ENROLLEES

Enrollees learned how to work with others; gained a sense of accomplishment when they completed a project; earned money; and developed a greater understanding of and appreciation for our natural resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Environmental Awareness (EA) training was provided to the enrollees to teach them about wildlife and fishery resources, and more importantly about the FWS's role as it relates to fish and wildlife. Highlights of the training to enrollees included: assisting fishery biologists in tagging striped bass fingerlings to be released in the Chesapeake Bay; assisting in electrofishing for Apache trout in Arizona; assisting biologists with bird counts and banding; and accompanying biologists on surveys of wetlands. Other EA related training included guest speakers and field trips to other Federal and State agencies. In addition to EA training and work project accomplishments, the enrollees developed productive work habits.

WORK PROJECTS

The field staff, enrollees and surrounding communities were very complimentary of the numerous projects completed by YCC enrollees. Some of the more significant projects were: building boardwalks at fishing areas for the handicapped; constructing outdoor classrooms and bleachers; building and repairing access/nature trails; building observation decks; and improving and maintaining campgrounds, stream areas and channels. Work projects accomplished included: building fences and kiosks; installing new refuge signs;

painting buildings on refuges and fish hatcheries; assisting in erosion control projects; and assisting in the repair of foot bridges.

SAFETY

The accidents were limited to minor cuts, scratches and sprains. Many of these minor accidents could have been avoided. Corrective actions will be taken to decrease the number by providing safety training for all staff involved in YCC operations.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Thank you, sir, very much.
Mr. Hartwig.

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM HARTWIG, DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR REFUGES AND WILDLIFE, U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Mr. HARTWIG. Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the Fish and Wildlife Service's Youth Conservation Corps program.

The Service has employed YCC enrollees at over 350 facilities throughout the country, including national wildlife refuges, national fish hatcheries and research stations. They've constructed handicapped-accessible fishing piers, boardwalks, fences and nature trails for these facilities. And they help maintain fences, trails, observation decks and signs.

Enrollees also have been responsible for conducting bird counts, relocating prairie dogs, tagging striped bass fingerlings to be released in the Chesapeake Bay, as well as environmental studies and habitat improvement projects.

In addition to earning money, the participants have had the opportunity to gain appreciation of their natural heritage, learn to work with others and experience a sense of accomplishment, as you've heard earlier today from the first panel.

From 1982 through 1991, the Fish and Wildlife Service employed over 11,000 youths in the YCC program at costs exceeding $19 million. The value of the projects completed during that same period exceeded over $25 million.

Although direct funding for the program was provided only in fiscal year 1983, the Service has supported it at a level of one million dollars during the other nine years. That level of funding has supported about 600 enrollees per year.

Again, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to discuss this important program and would be very happy to respond to questions later.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Hartwig follows:]

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM F. HARTWIG, DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to discuss the Fish and Wildlife Service's Youth Conservation Corps program.

The Youth Conservation Corps was established as a pilot program on August 13, 1970, pursuant to Public Law 91-378. On September 3, 1974, the YCC was expanded and made permanent by Public Law 93-408. As reflected in the law, three equally important objectives are to:

- Accomplish needed conservation work on public lands.
- Provide gainful employment for young adults between the ages of 15 and 18 from all social, economic, ethnic and racial classifications.
- Aid participating youths in the development of an understanding and appreciation of the Nation's natural environment and heritage.

YCC enrollees have been employed by the Fish and Wildlife Service at more than 350 facilities throughout the country, including National Wildlife Refuges, National Fish Hatcheries, and Research Stations. They have constructed handicapped accessible fishing piers, boardwalks, fences and nature trails at these facilities, and they help maintain fences, trails, observation decks, and signs. Finally, enrollees have also been responsible for conducting bird counts, relocating prairie dogs, tagging striped bass fingerlings to be released in Chesapeake Bay, as well as environmental studies and habitat improvement projects.

In addition to earning money, participants have the opportunity to gain an appreciation of their natural heritage, learn to work with others, and experience a sense of accomplishment. Local communities also benefit from the employment of their youth, and the relationship between the local community and the Service's field staff has been enhanced. In addition, local businesses enjoy the economic benefits that result from the sale of materials and supplies.

From 1981 through 1991, the Fish and Wildlife Service employed over 11,000 youth in the YCC Program at a cost exceeding $22 million. The estimated value of projects during that period exceeded $25 million. Although direct funding for the program was provided only in Fiscal Year 1983, the Service has supported it at a level of $1 million during the other 9 years. That level of funding has supported about 600 enrollees per year.

Again, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to discuss this important program, and I will be glad to respond to questions.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Thank you, sir.

Mr. Beasley.

STATEMENT OF JAY LAMAR BEASLEY, DEPUTY CHIEF, FOREST SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Mr. BEASLEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I, too, thank you for the opportunity to discuss the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program in which we participate in the Forest Service.

The Forest Service is pleased to have the opportunity to help carry out the objectives of the Youth Conservation Corps program. And, of course, these objectives have already been stated by Mr. Moffitt and Mr. Hartwig, so I'll not repeat them.

The National Forests are truly treasures of our nation. They offer opportunities for youth, as well as others, including older Americans, to participate in conservation work and natural resources education. The forests also offer opportunities to meet broader social needs of our society.

Mr. Chairman, I'm going to be brief and ask that my full statement be included in the record in order not to repeat another witness' statements.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Without objection.

Mr. BEASLEY. The YCC program in the Forest Service offers youths the opportunity not only to commute to and from work daily in the forest, but it also provides an opportunity for them to live in the forest setting.

We have one residential program that is located in the Mount Hood National Forest in Oregon. It is operated in partnership with local communities and organizations who contribute resources to carry out the program with the youth working and living at this forest location.

As with other agencies, the YCC enrollees perform many tasks that would not be accomplished otherwise. These projects include such things as supporting recreation programs, fish and wildlife programs, range, timber, facilities enhancement and other objectives of the National Forest which yield significant benefits to national resources and to the public.

I would like to point out one special program that we have underway. We have one crew consisting of teenagers with disabilities. They are led by a volunteer leader. They maintain and clean campgrounds and work on projects that provide opportunities for other people with disabilities to enjoy the National Forests.

Public land agencies benefit in another way from the YCC program. The program builds understanding of not only the agency's programs, but the broader conservation and natural resources arena.

The benefits to enrollees are unquestionable. While they earn a minimum wage, the program provides the youth with an opportunity to acquire increased self-dignity and self-discipline. They learn about the work ethic, and how to relate to peers and supervisors from various social, economic, ethnic, and racial backgrounds.

Of the total 1,230 youth employed in 1981 with the Forest Service, 20 percent were minorities and 43 percent were women.

In addition, the YCC participants develop an awareness of the environment and the conservation ethic which we think will last a lifetime.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my statement. I would be happy to try to respond to questions that you might have.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Beasley follows:]

STATEMENT OF J. LAMAR BEASLEY, DEPUTY CHIEF, FOREST SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to discuss the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) Program in the Forest Service.

The Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) is a summer employment program for young men and women ages 15 through 18 from all segments of society. Patterned after the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930's, the program provides teenage employment and accomplishes conservation work on public lands.

The objectives of the program are to: (1) accomplish needed conservation work on public lands; (2) provide employment for teenagers from all segments of society; and (3) develop an understanding and appreciation in youth of the Nation's natural environment and heritage.

Enrollees are paid minimum wage for 40 hours of work per week. Most projects last 8 weeks during summer months, with a few extending to 9 or 10 weeks. YCC programs in the Forest Service offer youth opportunities to commute to work in the forest or live in a forest setting. One residential program on the Mt. Hood National Forest in Oregon is a partnership with local communities and organizations who contributed resources to carry out the program with youth working and living at a forest location.

YCC enrollees perform many tasks that would not be accomplished otherwise. Their projects support recreation, fish and wildlife, range and forage, timber, and facility enhancement objectives on the National Forests and yield significant benefits to the natural resources and to the public. Of special note is one crew consisting of teenagers with disabilities led by a volunteer leader, that maintained and cleaned campgrounds and worked on projects that provide opportunities for other people with disabilities to enjoy the National Forests. Public land agencies benefit in another way from the YCC program—understanding of Forest Service programs is enhanced and good will created in the community through youth involvement in the program.

The benefits to enrollees are unquestionable. While they earn minimum wage, the program provides the youth with an opportunity to acquire increased self-dignity and self-discipline. They learn about the work ethnic and how to relate to peers and supervisors from various social, economic, ethnic, and racial backgrounds. Of the total of 1,230 youth employed in 1991, 20 percent were minorities and 43 percent were women. In addition, YCC participants develop an awareness of the environment and a conservation ethic which lasts a lifetime.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my statement. I would be happy to answer any questions you or members of the Subcommittee may have.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Thank you, Mr. Beasley, very much.

Congressman, I just wanted to ask, is that the application for Kansas in front of you?

Mr. MCCLOSKEY. Yes, sir.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. All of it, the whole thing?

Mr. MCCLOSKEY. Yes, sir.

We have 30 days in which to decide on this application.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Why is it that it has to be so big? There may be a good reason that it has to be big.

Mr. MCCLOSKEY. I'll tell you, after serving in this body 15 years, I find that——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. I mean I know if you were up here, that's the question you'd ask.

Mr. MCCLOSKEY. Exactly.

And what I found, when we tried to put these application forms in as brief a period as we could, is that we had to comply with, I'm going to say, dozens of federal statutes. People have to certify they're going to meet the disabled act, the various kinds of acts.

We've literally made government so complex that it's difficult to do volunteer service. Because people that really get volunteer service then just don't like to fill out this kind of application. They like to get things done.

But this is all required probably by federal acts that you and I have passed in the Congress of the United States.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Good grief. Look at all that. That's for one state.

Mr. MCCLOSKEY. This is one state.

We've got panels of 60 people that will be attacking these 46 applications to present back to the board on May 1, 2 and 3. We figure we'll spend three days deciding how to allocate the $22.5 million we have for Youth Service Corps.

And I might say, Mr. Chairman, that what we visualize as our major project is to report back to you which work and which don't, at the end of this year. Because I hope that will give you some guidance on what kind of programs to support and what not, which are cost effective and which are not.

I brought Alan Khazei here because part of our ethic is to try to stimulate youth leadership. So that our work probably will be more concentrated in urban corps than it will in urban youth out in the country.

But Mr. Khazei has run probably the best one in the country. And if you have any questions about this Boston program, he can probably give better guidance than any of us.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Either you, Congressman, or Mr. Khazei, you see the fundamental objective of the program as what—to inspire youth leadership, to do this backlog of maintenance, to put people to work and compensate them?

What is the central or fundamental objective? And I know it's a difficult thing to evaluate and determine cost effectiveness over, but what is the real purpose?

Mr. MCCLOSKEY. Well, there are essentially seven purposes built into the Act.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. I was afraid of that.

Mr. MCCLOSKEY. Well, we've identified at least seven major authors in the Congress.

Ms. Sagawa wrote the legislation and we might define it differently. But I would say it is to reach down into particularly the minority and disadvantaged youth communities to develop youth leadership by stimulating youths to volunteer.

We have a feeling that the best person to stimulate an 11-year-old to stop using crack or a 12-year-old to not get pregnant is a 15-year-old or an 18-year-old. We've got to find those leaders in this process.

We've got another section on schools of course and on national forests.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. You find those leaders so that they can get to younger kids?

Mr. MCCLOSKEY. So that they can get the younger kids and that, by getting some self-esteem in this process, that they can go on to leadership.

We seem to find that there's a track. That once people have served others, they like to continue that through the rest of their lives. If we can stimulate what our Executive Director calls a national movement, so that more and more people volunteer to serve in their local communities, we will have accomplished our primary purpose.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And your objective in this program is to do that primarily in cities and primarily among underprivileged youngsters?

Mr. MCCLOSKEY. That is dictated by the Act and, I think, correctly so. That we want to have the service in the areas where we need leadership.

Most of these young kids that are having the problems today do not have two parents in their homes, or two parents who work. Some have no parents; some have one parent. That's our primary effort, to track the leadership lack among young people.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Mr. Khazei, how do you do this? How do you get these kids who have such a difficult time through no fault of their own? Can we make any kind of impact here?

Mr. KHAZEI. Well, I think you can make a tremendous impact and you can do it by asking them.

I wanted to say a couple of things in answer to your question, Congressman Kostmayer. You do it simply by asking them. It's much like what John Kennedy did over 30 years ago when he said, "Ask not * * *".

And we've found in Boston—and not just in Boston—I appreciate what Congressman McCloskey had to say about city areas. But there are over 60 state and local Youth Corps programs operating now with tens of thousands of young people who have answered the call to service.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Now, the one that Mr. Williams talked about in Philadelphia is one of those?

Mr. KHAZEI. Absolutely. In Pennsylvania and across the country—California, South, North, East, West.

And what these programs have done, first and foremost, is asked, is said to young people, you're needed; you're important; we want you. Give us your hearts, your minds, your idealism. And that's the first step. You have to make the opportunities available.

And if you do that, young people will respond. What we found, not just in Boston but across the country, is that there are more and more young people who want to do these programs than there is the opportunity available. So I would encourage you to look at that.

In answer to what's it about? The central objective of all these programs is to develop an ethic of citizenship and community. That's really what's needed in this country more than ever today. It's a sense that we're all part of it, that we're all in it together and that we all have an opportunity and a responsibility to give something back.

And young people will respond to that, no matter if they're rich, poor or middle class, if they're white, black, Asian or Hispanic, if they've had the best opportunity or——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. But this program is aimed primarily at kids who are not rich.

Mr. KHAZEI. Actually the legislation is designed to call all young people to serve. Our mandate is to, as our esteemed Chair said, really to help foster and build upon a movement that's already out there from as young as kindergarten all the way up to senior citizens; we're all needed. And that's what it's really all about.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. But you're concentrating, as I think you ought to be, on kids who don't have in their surroundings these opportunities?

Mr. KHAZEI. Well, the work is focused in the most needy areas, that's absolutely true. But actually the Act calls for all young people to serve. And I think that very, very important.

We found in Boston, for example, and other places around the country, that when you bring people together from different backgrounds, they learn from each other. And they realize that this country has to come together, that we're all in this together.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. It's good to have a mixture of black urban kids and white suburban kids and all kinds of——

Mr. KHAZEI. Or white inner city kids or African-American middle class kids.

It's important that everybody get involved in this effort.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Now just take me through this. What is your first step? How do you get to these young people? How do you find them?

Mr. KHAZEI. You ask them.

You go into high schools; you go into boys' and girls' clubs; you go into—we've done recruiting in roller skating rinks. You go where the young people are. You go out in the streets.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. So you have an outreach program where you——

Mr. KHAZEI. You have to outreach. You have to go out there. You have to talk to them; you have to let them know what's available; you have to introduce them to the program. It takes work; it takes effort. You have to go where the young people are.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And what role does individual attention to these youngsters play?

Mr. KHAZEI. It's critical. I mean all the programs are comprehensive service; they're learning programs. And it's important that they involve teamwork but they also involve individual attention.

For example, all the programs that involve high school dropouts have GED or high school equivalency components. So the young people in the program not only are giving back but they're receiving and they're learning, how do I get my GED while I'm also giving back to my society. That's important.

They have programs designed to reach young people how to do a job interview or write a resume, to get the life skills that they need to go on after work.

Or in some programs they have information on how to apply to college and to get a college scholarship. So it's designed as really a life advancement service learning effort.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And what about federal funding for these programs; is it adequate, inadequate?

Mr. KHAZEI. Well, my own particular opinion is that we need more money.

I mean, as you can see by these requests, we've had requests, I think—I'm not sure; Catherine Milton, our Executive Director, could answer better. But there have been requests for over, I think, $150 or $200 million. We have $72 million right now.

But I think it's important that you understand that the most important thing is that there are young people willing to serve. And it's not the Me Generation. It's a lack of leadership saying, you're needed and you're important.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Now, young Mr. Dominguez was up here earlier and said that he had heard about the program, I guess, through the public welfare office.

A percentage of these youngsters are on the welfare rolls when you first make contact with them?

Mr. KHAZEI. They come from all over really.

Many have been unemployed. Many have left school for different reasons. Some just want to express their idealism and want to give something back.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Can you tell us roughly what portion, very roughly, have in fact left school, are on the welfare rolls?

Mr. KHAZEI. I don't know the statistics nationally. I can tell you from our own program in Boston, about 25 percent of the corpsmembers have dropped out of school, about 60 percent are lower income, are from the city, about 40 percent are from the greater Boston area or the suburban area, about 15 percent are higher income and about 15 or 20 percent are middle income. So in Boston, at least, they come from all over. And I think that's important.

We have to provide opportunities for all of our young people to serve.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And you have about $73 million for your program for 46 states, the Congressman said, and 36 Indian tribes?

Mr. MCCLOSKEY. Right.

Mr. Chairman, I want to make clear we're not asking for more money yet. Because we have not yet understood where the money should best be spent and how it should be spent.

We do know that this Youth Corps program you've assigned us to distribute the $22.5 million this year could perhaps give Congress some indication next year where the money should be spent.

I want to speak of one item that might be dear to your heart. I might say, first of all, the Don Mathis of your Pennsylvania Corps has been a witness at each of our hearings. We also heard these two young people from Pennsylvania yesterday. And I will say that the input we've gotten from Pennsylvania about how to shape our policy has been very helpful.

But I want to describe an instance that we will be looking back to report to you. It's a story of something called the Bottle Bill in California. A very innovative legislator trying to conserve bottles caused the State of California to have all manufacturers put three cents into a fund when they issued a bottle.

Well, some bottles are broken and don't come back. The money was supposedly to be returned. But because, say two cents came back, the one cent he caused to be put into a fund for Youth Corps. As a result we now have 27 urban Youth Corps in California that started with that brief funding and have now magnified into youth service.

It's that kind of innovation which we hope, at the federal level—perhaps in Transportation, perhaps in the big federal programs—that we can devise the seed money to start these Youth Corps and to fund them.

The California program, which will testify in the next panel, I believe, will tell you that they return more to the public treasury as the work of these Youth Corps than is actually put in in funding.

So what we're seeking, in this first year of our operation, is to be able to analyze and report back to you what kind of Youth Corps and to the stimulation of volunteers that are best spent money on.

I just want to make that clear. You'll hear everybody can use more money. We don't know yet what to recommend in that respect.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. How much flexibility do you have in making these awards to states and to Indian tribes?

Mr. MCCLOSKEY. Can we tell you in a month?

I told your staff person it would be premature for us to discuss our process because we're trying to be meticulous that we don't give favoritism in any way.

But we hope to have made our Youth Corps grants by May 3. And I think it would be appropriate that we then give you a written response as to how we've made them, at least at that point.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Mr. Moffitt, let me ask you about the federal involvement here.

The Department of the Interior is satisfied with this program, I gather; is that right?

Mr. MOFFITT. Yes, sir.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. In 1991 your expenditure for the program was a little under three million. Twelve years ago, I'm told, the same program was getting about $21 million.

What happened?

Mr. MOFFITT. That's correct, yes, sir.

Basically once funding was put upon the agency itself from—in other words, we had to make money available from our existing operating monies, rather than monies being appropriated directly for the YCC program, obviously then it began to compete——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. That happened in what year?

Mr. MOFFITT. 1983.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. So beginning in 1983 you had to pick this money up out of your own budget and sustain it yourselves, rather than get an appropriation?

Mr. MOFFITT. Yes, sir, that's correct.

So now it's competing against a lot of other needs within the Service.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, apparently it's not doing very well, I guess, compared to other needs.

Mr. MOFFITT. It's holding its own.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Not compared to 12 years ago.

Mr. MOFFITT. Well, no, not compared to when monies were directly appropriated.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, justify for the Subcommittee the reduction from $21 million to three million over the last 12 years.

Aside from the fact that you've got to pay for it yourselves, why cut this program and not others?

Mr. MOFFITT. Others have——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Somebody made the decision to cut this program and not another program obviously.

Mr. MOFFITT. Sure. We're given budget guidelines by the Office of Management and Budget, and departmental and——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. But you make the decision about what to cut and what not to cut, why choose this?

Mr. MOFFITT. It did not meet our priorities. It did not fall at the cut line.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. What priorities of yours does it not meet?

Mr. MOFFITT. Well, other programs have surpassed it, such as hazardous waste. There's a multitude of programs that would be higher on our priority list that it had to compete against.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. For example?

Mr. MOFFITT. Hazardous waste abatement, maintenance backlog. We have $500 million plus maintenance backlog of major rehabilitation and——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, doesn't this program deal with maintenance backlog?

Mr. MOFFITT. Not the major rehabilitation of structures and roadways and this sort of thing.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. But it does deal with the issue of maintenance backlog?

Mr. MOFFITT. They take care of minor maintenance projects, yes—trail maintenance and that sort. And that's how we use the program now.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. So you're achieving a couple of objectives at the same time?

Mr. MOFFITT. Yes, sir.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. So why not fund it?

Mr. MOFFITT. As I said, it doesn't fall within our priorities any more than the million plus. Basically the way——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Just tell me what priorities it doesn't meet.

Mr. MOFFITT. Basically, the way the program——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Maybe you're right. I'm sure there are things that are less important; I'm sure there are things that are more important obviously. But what priorities doesn't it meet?

Mr. MOFFITT. Maybe if I told you how we administer the program within the Park Service. I'm not sure if the Fish and Wildlife Service does it the same way.

But here in Washington we determine a realistic goal that we feel, based on past experience, that the parks can reach. We give a

quota or goal to each region, saying you must expand x number of dollars on YCC program this year.

The park superintendents then——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Based on what? How do you reach that figure?

Mr. MOFFITT. Past performance, the regional budgets.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, past performance, it was $21 million.

Mr. MOFFITT. When it was specifically appropriated for YCC, yes.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, you just said you determine what you spend based on what you used to spend. You used to spend——

Mr. MOFFITT. It's no longer appropriated to YCC, right.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, I understand that.

But you used to spend a whole lot more. So one of the reasons——

Mr. MOFFITT. When the YCC funding was eliminated, it wasn't an add-on to our budget.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. I understand that. I understand where the money's coming from.

But it couldn't be a very important factor—what you used to spend—because you used to spend a whole lot more.

Mr. MOFFITT. That's right.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. So put aside that factor, what other factors do you consider?

Mr. MOFFITT. Just availability of funds, Congressman, competing against other priorities within the Park Service. And, like I say, visitor protection, law enforcement, drug problems, archeological looting problems, all these programs have——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. How much are you spending on archeological looting?

Mr. MOFFITT. I don't have the exact figure, but it's a million dollars or so. It would probably be equal to our YCC program.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Sorry?

Mr. MOFFITT. It would probably be close to being equal to our YCC problem.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Okay. What programs do you have then that deal with the problems that this program is intended to deal with?

Mr. MOFFITT. Would you repeat that, sir?

Mr. KOSTMAYER. What programs do you have that are intended to deal with the problems that this program is intended to deal with—the problems of young people?

Mr. MOFFITT. Well, we have a Job Corps program we operate within the Park Service also, which is separate from the YCC program. It's funded by Labor, but we operate the centers. That's approximately a $4 million program per year.

And we do cooperate and receive funding from the Student Conservation Association where we receive similar benefits that we do from the YCC program. And I think that's probably approximately $600,000 to $700,000 a year.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Do you think we ought to be spending more money on this program; do you think your Department ought to be somehow figuring out a way to spend more money than the just under three million dollars?

Mr. MOFFITT. I think more money should be spent on our youth. I'm not sure if the Department of the Interior is the appropriate funneling source.

We've received excellent results from our cooperation with the Student Conservation Association. That's just one of many groups out there which can supply these sorts of programs.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Researchers have concluded that the social investment in the Job Corps program is paid back about three years after the individual completes the program. There's what a 46 percent rate of return to society on the investment, which is about $13,000.

Don't you think that makes this investment worthwhile?

Mr. MOFFITT. Yes, sir, I would not argue with you on that.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And so would you agree with me that the investment ought to be increased?

Mr. MOFFITT. Yes, sir.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And what are you going to do to see that it is increased?

Mr. MOFFITT. I don't know that I can do, or the Park Service can do anything, sir. I think that's up to the Congress.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. All right.

I want to thank you, Congressman.

Thank you, Mr. Moffitt. I want to thank all of the witnesses. I appreciate your testimony. We thank you very much.

I'd like to call the next panel. Mr. Richard Bernheimer, California Conservation Corps, interim Director; Mr. Don Mathis, Director of the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps; and Mr. Peter Engbretson, Executive Director of the Philadelphia Ranger Corps.

Mr. Engbretson, would you like to begin?

PANEL CONSISTING OF: PETER ENGBRETSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PHILADELPHIA RANGER CORPS; DON MATHIS, DIRECTOR, PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVATION CORPS; AND RICHARD BERNHEIMER, INTERIM DIRECTOR, CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS

STATEMENT OF PETER ENGBRETSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PHILADELPHIA RANGER CORPS

Mr. ENGBRETSON. Yes, sir.

Good morning, Mr. Chairman.

Carlton Williams is a product of our program and he's a tough act to follow.

I'm Executive Director of the Philadelphia Ranger Corps. My name is Peter Engbretson.

In a very real way, I work for Carlton Williams and the many young people in our program.

Rather than going through my written remarks, which you have a copy of, I'd like to touch on what may distinguish the Philadelphia Ranger Corps as a Youth Corps program and talk a little bit about how this kind of program can leverage other results in the community.

The Philadelphia Ranger Corps is distinctive, I think, perhaps in that it focuses on the so-called kids in the middle, or the forgotten half, those roughly 50 percent of the young people in the country who graduate from high school but do not go on to college. So the program was conceived with a dual mission in mind—community service and career development.

Young people like Carlton Williams, are given a path to pursue. Virtually everyone who has been in the program and has started college in the program, has continued their college education upon leaving the program. And the great majority of people in the program have gone on to other than what we think of as the dead-end mall jobs. They are pursuing productive careers. So we see that as a very positive outcome.

The emphasis on service has had its own outcomes. We have an organization within the Ranger Corps called CRUSH, Committed Ranger Using Service to Help. And this is a group of volunteer Rangers, created by them, that is out there involved in mentoring projects, working with young people in the community, working in homes for the elderly, involved in a great many projects around the community. And they see this as a direct part of their involvement in the Ranger Corps.

The early years of the program were focused on developing these young people who are high school graduates on their way to college. We simply cannot afford to do that anymore. It's a very expensive program.

Mr. Williams mentioned to you that we currently have 18 full-time graduate Rangers in the program. We could have 55 or 60, the number of people who have completed the entire two-year program. We hope to leverage their efforts in this way.

Those young people, some of whom are supervisors now, like Carlton Williams, will be involved in supervising high school youth in conservation programs in Fairmount Park. We started our high school program last summer. It's called the Summer Park Conservation Corps. I just wanted to mention that to you because I think it's an example of the kind of thing that can happen around the country.

Thirty inter-city kids from West Philadelphia came in for six weeks to work under accomplished crew leaders and Rangers as role models to do conservation work in the Park. I think of it as our 900 Club. We had 30 kids, 30 perfect days of attendance with no one late, resulting in 900 days of community service in the City of Philadelphia.

We hope to make that a year-round program. And that is how we're going to use the talents of the Rangers who have been through our program to work with these still younger kids to do a lot of good work throughout the City.

Let me mention one other thing by way of spin-offs of these programs.

We were created and conceived by the William Penn Foundation and paid for virtually 100 percent, in the early years. We were conceived as a public/private venture. The clear expectation back in 1987 was that by this time the Philadelphia Ranger Corps would be, in large part, underwritten by the City of Philadelphia and by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Times change. No one anticipated quite where the City's finances were going. But the original notion remains, that we are a public/private venture.

And, in order to develop funds beyond those that got us started, we have begun to go into the community with different kinds of projects.

For example, we contract with the Center City District of Philadelphia to operate their Community Service Representative Program under contract.

We have just won a contract in Camden, New Jersey, to operate a comparable program on the Camden waterfront in conjunction with the aquarium. Virtually every kid in that program was unemployed when he or she came to us. And they're doing an outstanding job now in developing some career patterns.

From my point of view, I think the major payoff of the National Community Service Act will be in acting as a leverage point for developing partnerships in the community in the private sector. Because, while it can provide a base of funding, it certainly can't do it all. And I think it can provide the leadership that will enable private organizations to come in and help sustain these very important programs.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Engbretson follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF PETER ENGBRETSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PHILADELPHIA RANGER CORPS

Congressman Kostmayer and distinguished members of the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment. I am Peter Engbretson, Executive Director of the Philadelphia Ranger Corps. Thank you for this opportunity to speak with you today about youth conservation corps programs. I hope that our particular experience can inform the development of models of service for other communities.

The Philadelphia Ranger Corps is prepared to enter into partnership with governments and local agencies in these efforts. We were pleased that our Board and staff were active advocates for the passage of the National and Community Service Act, which is largely the subject of this Subcommittee's hearing today. We may well be the only nonprofit agency in Pennsylvania which is fortunate enough to have both of our United States Senators as Board members.

We are a nonprofit organization training and employing young Philadelphians as urban park rangers, to serve in Philadelphia's Fairmount Park system. During the rigorous two-year training program, our ranger trainees have received on-the-job experience and training with professional park rangers, as well as two years of college at Temple University.

The Corps is presently undergoing a restructuring which we believe will enable us to more effectively respond to the needs of the community in the long term. Although our present two-year program of college education, training and work experience is simply too expensive to sustain, we are certain we will be positioned to offer other engaging opportunities for young people interested in service and conservation.

We have developed a unique model of community service and career development, which has focused on environmental concerns and public spaces. We have learned about the value of community service for the lives of the young people and the community we serve. We have learned how to teach job skills and competencies which will enable our program participants to be productive citizens. And, as you have already heard from one of the graduates of our program, Carlton Williams, they have learned the value of giving back to the community as well. We are confident that the ethic of civic responsibility is alive and well among our participants.

Since we began to train urban park rangers in 1987, we have maintained a dual concern for enabling the transition of Philadelphia's young people into productive adult lives while helping to promote and preserve our parks and public spaces. I am here today to tell you a little about our program and the contributions which we firmly believe are made to young people and our communities through these experiences.

Carlton Williams talked with you about what community service means to him. Through he represented himself first, I know that many of our rangers, ranger candidates and Summer Corps crewmembers would tell similar stories. Through my association with the Philadelphia Ranger Corps from our inception, I have witnessed their success.

Not all our candidates complete our intensive two-year program. But we do know that even among those who left, their lives were changed because of their experi-

ence. Of the nearly 100 young people who came to the program, and are no longer with us, nearly all are either in school full time or working in decent jobs. Almost half are both working and going to school. Our own continuing contact with them affirms that having the opportunity to serve has had a positive impact on their lives.

We focus on enabling young people to make the transition to productive adulthood as they serve in our city's parks and public spaces. We believe that we can't enable that transition without generating energy and commitment to serving the community. Our training program focuses on developing competencies and skills as rangers.

But we expect all our staff and participants to be active members of their communities as well. Our rangers have developed their own community service group which has been engaged in mentoring in a local program, tutoring in local schools, assisting in programs for disabled children, teaching in the Mayor's Literacy program, and volunteering in nursing homes. Rangers are active scout leaders, church youth program leaders and sports coaches in community centers. Many of our rangers have taken active roles in park "friends" groups which advocate and work for improvement of our park system.

We believe the success of the Philadelphia Ranger Corps stands as testimony to the value of our mission. Begun with a generous grant from the William Penn Foundation, we now are deeply involved in efforts to build public and private financial support for the future. The reorganization which we have begun will also lead us to direct contact with even more young people.

Last summer, through a grant from the Private Industry Council, we participated in the Phil-A-Job program, which is one of Philadelphia's yeoman efforts to enable young people to do productive work in their communities in summer employment. In our Summer Park Conservation Corps we hired 30 inner-city high school students to work in Conservation projects in the park. We just received word that we will receive funding assistance from the Private Industry Council to do this program again this summer.

For six summer weeks in Fairmount Park, they worked under the supervision of talented crewleaders, learning teamwork, leadership and job skills. They accepted responsibility, participated in all the projects, including landscaping projects at Ridgeland Mansion, Ohio House and Franklin Square and contributed to the preservation of Fairmount Park. They kept a journal of their experiences and worked side by side with our Rangers, absorbing positive values and a strong work ethic. The rangers provided a strong role model for these young people. In our program this summer, this relationship will be even more personal and intense, as Rangers will act as the crewleaders for the program, and our supervisory conservation expert will be coordinating the work.

We are particularly proud of their incredible attendance, the quality of their projects and the continuing interest they have been showing. After the Phil-A-Job project ended, we were even able to garner a special contract with the Center City District where the crews did landscaping along Broad Street and removed graffiti and posters from Center City streets. Just a month ago, we again gathered some of these young people to do a spring cleaning for the Center City District.

Because of this experience and our interest in continuing to work with young people in community service projects, especially in conservation projects throughout Fairmount Park, we are exploring ways to make this into a year-round program. As I already indicated, we are involved in reorganization which will bring us into more direct contact with more young people. We want to use the skill, dedication, commitment and talent of our rangers to intervene with students in schools to encourage their interest in community service. We already teach environmental education in many of the city's elementary schools and provide an environmental education career seminar for high school students.

The nucleus for development of a year-round program has been established, and we will offer more opportunities for young people to become involved with us, particularly in conservation work projects which will contribute to the preservation of Fairmount Park, Philadelphia's world class park system. These projects will be significant and important projects involving trail and fence maintenance, historic house preservation, nature center development and construction, park "guardhouse" rehabilitation, landscaping and related projects. The nature of these projects would enable a young person to learn real and usable job skills, and they would be moving along a path which would lead to continued education opportunities and service to the community.

Work and service for high school students which begins in the summer as a participant in the Summer Park Conservation Corps can expand as an eligible program

for funding through Subtitle C of the National and Community Service Act. I am pleased to share this table with our colleagues from Harrisburg and Washington, and will reiterate our interest and commitment to be partners in the planning and implementation of Pennsylvania's plans. The success of this effort combined with the success of our efforts to build public and private support for the Philadelphia Ranger Corps will provide opportunity for these young people to continue their education and service with the Corps.

We know that our program has benefited the ranger trainees, the rangers and the community, and can be a model of partnership among many community groups. The Philadelphia Ranger Corps would like to state our unequivocal support of the goals of the National and Community Service Act. It would perhaps be preaching to the choir to suggest that the dual investment in youth and conservation programs will reward us handsomely in the future. However, it should be said clearly and loudly that partnerships in local communities must be just that—partnerships. Government funding from all levels for these programs may never be totally matched by private sources. But the stability and consistency which these funds provide for programs is essential to leverage the community and corporate support which is every program's goal.

Thank you for this opportunity to address the Committee.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Thank you very much.

Mr. Mathis.

STATEMENT OF DON MATHIS, DIRECTOR, PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVATION CORPS

Mr. MATHIS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I appreciate the opportunity to be here.

I just want you to know Pennsylvania's application is about one-fourth as thick as Kansas.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Why is that?

Mr. MATHIS. Because we're going to do what we said we're going to do. [Laughter.]

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Nobody from Kansas here, I guess.

Mr. MATHIS. We have actually provided technical assistance, Pennsylvania, to Kansas. We went out there once and they came to Harrisburg to provide assistance to us. And their scope of work may be much different than ours.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, it's just crazy that the application would be as big and bulky as it is; it just doesn't make any sense.

Mr. MATHIS. Well, ours is good. And it will do you proud. And we welcome you to come out and visit our program as we go down the road.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Half of that junk can just be thrown out.

Mr. MATHIS. As someone who sat in the office until 11:00 many evenings, your thought would have been very helpful to me at those times.

I have a prepared statement I'd like to submit for the record if I might and just summarize it real briefly.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Without objection.

Mr. MATHIS. There are just a couple of points that you brought up and other members have brought up.

I'd like to talk about, one, what a Corps is; you've heard it.

It's a bunch of young people working together cooperatively doing things, being challenged, being asked to serve that they may not have done before.

With all due respect to the representatives from Interior who were just here, many of these young people, at least in the case of

the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps, do very labor intensive projects.

Eleazar Dominguez—they have gutted a barn, taken down rotten rafters, put up a building, looked at specs, looked at plans.

Allyssa, who was a witness here before, will be doing a major park structure and building in her park.

And there are a variety of bridges, cabins, pavilions, concrete—real labor intensive work that Corpsmembers can do.

And they also get the skills Mr. Hefley had asked for before about work readiness and problem solving and what have you.

I'm sorry Mr. Hefley is no longer with us. Because in Colorado Springs, they have a corps there. And they've got red patches and they're called Bloods. And if you go into Denver, they've got a corps there; they've got blue patches. They're called Crips. And they're a different kind of corps.

Those are the kinds of gangs, as another word, of young people that do, in a negative sense, what Corps try to do in a positive sense. They have teams of youth working together to accomplish ends that are labor intensive.

We like to think the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps is better than the Bloods and the Crips. And we have Bloods and Crips in Pennsylvania too; I don't want to pick on Mr. Hefley's home state.

But that's why I wear this uniform when I come to Congress and when I spoke before the Commission yesterday. We ask our young people to do it because we want to give them something positive that they can feel good about, that they can have a symbol for and what have you.

You had asked an earlier question, sir, about is the product the work that's being done or the youth development. I guess one answer is, it's both. That you really can do both at the same time and they're not necessarily mutually exclusive.

When you referred to crime and the problems of crime in your earlier statement, it's our responsibility as adults, as policy makers—I'm a State official; I work for the State of Pennsylvania. Our Corps gets six million dollars from Governor Casey's budget every year to provide services for hundreds of young people and thousands of young people year-round.

And we need to provide these young people with opportunities so they can do good. We shouldn't be surprised if they go on the wrong track if we don't give them the right opportunities to do. That's what Carlton said and that's what Peter just talked about.

My testimony concludes with four recommendations. I'd like to touch on those briefly.

Let me also say that at our statewide hearings on the National Act Funds, which Representative McCloskey chairs, we have representatives from Bucks County Youth Services, from their Foster Care Juvenile Detention Program. And we want to include them in our program because there are young people who have been left out, not only in the City of Philadelphia but in Bucks County, in Doylestown, in Allentown and in rural parts of the state who can participate in this program.

My recommendations are, one, I understand the hesitancy of the Commission members and staff to ask for money; I'll do it for them. The National Community Service Act is $73 million now; it

could go to $120 million easily and support quality projects. And I know in your role on other Committees and you and Mr. Jontz will look favorably upon that.

Two, I checked with the Pentagon before we came down here. And the last three years 27,284 young Pennsylvanians enrolled in all branches of the military. These were young people who were not college-bound who were looking for some way to crack the labor market, who were willing to wear a uniform, abide by disciplinary rules, get some training, get some work skills.

If you believe the front pages of the various newspapers of this country and the evening news, Pennsylvania may not have 27,000 slots for military recruitments in the next three years. And we need to provide opportunities for those young people to do something worth while. We think the Corps does that and we'd like your support.

I know there are drafts of various infrastructure bills floating around. I know the Senate has had a lot of play in this and Senator Simon and Senator Bourne. If infrastructure bills are developed in the House for highway, please consider Corps as part of those bills, not to displace labor but a small set-aside.

I know the interest of this Subcommittee is on federal lands. So I hope that if you look at using Corps in federal lands, please understand that will require new money.

The mayors, the townships, the borough supervisors, the county officials have desk drawers full of projects that would have been funded by UDAG and HUD block grants and what have you, that they want the Conservation Corps to do. So if there's expansion to federal lands, it will take new money.

My final comment is the Corps aren't a program that are nice—it's easy to see, you know, people sitting here and looking around say, oh, what a nice program. The California Conservation Corps is so nice. The Pennsylvania Conservation Corps, Philadelphia—these programs are important and they're necessary. They save kids lives.

And if we really want to put our money where our rhetoric is about making a difference for young people who are on the bubble between going the right way and the wrong way, this is where the buck should go.

I thank you for this opportunity.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Mathis follows:]

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

STATEMENT OF DONALD W. MATHIS, DIRECTOR, PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVATION CORPS

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to testify before the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment. I am Don Mathis, director of the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps, a $6 million per year, state-funded program administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry. In the Department, the Corps also is part of PennSERVE: the Governor's Office of Citizen Service, and Governor Robert P. Casey continues to be a long-standing and nationally-esteemed champion on behalf of youth corps and community service programs. Last year, in fact, the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps selected Governor Casey for its "National Leadership Award" for his exemplary work on conservation corps in Pennsylvania and for his work with the National Governor's Association.

Likewise, Mr. Chairman, let me express the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps's gratitude to you and the members of this Subcommittee for your leadership on envi-

ronmental issues and for generating public policy that will enable young people across America to participate in conservation programs.

Let me begin my testimony with a brief description of the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps (PCC) to show how the Corps's work is relevant to the interests of this Subcommittee. Then, my testimony will itemize some of the kinds of benefits that the PCC provides to the corpsmembers, to the Commonwealth's public lands and agencies, and to the citizens of Pennsylvania overall. My testimony will conclude by offering recommendations for this Subcommittee's consideration.

BACKGROUND ON THE PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVATION CORPS

The PCC was established in July, 1984 and is completely state-funded. Since its inception, more than 9,000 young Pennsylvanians, ages 18-25, have served in the year-round corps. In 1990, the PCC started a Summer Youth Service Corps for youth ages 14-21 in collaboration with labor and Industry's office that administers the federal Job Training Partnership Act funds (Title II-B). Over 2,500 youth have served in these summer corps.

The PCC's mission is to develop the workplace skills, life skills, and self-confidence of corpsmembers; instill an ethic of citizenship; accomplish significant conservation and historical work; and carry out other projects of public benefit. The Corps is committed to a comprehensive approach that fosters a spirit of teamwork and advances the concept of individual empowerment through community service.

Of the 9000+ year-round PCC corpsmembers, all of these youth were unemployed when they joined the PCC and 95% were economically disadvantaged. 45% had less than a high school education. More than 70% of all corpsmembers left the PCC for what are considered positive reasons: because they had completed their one-year term of service, found outside employment, joined the military, or re-entered school.

WHAT THE CORPS DOES/WHAT A CREW IS

Corpsmembers work on labor-intensive projects on public lands or on projects that benefit the public. Corpsmembers earn the minimum wage for their work and service. In state parks, state forests, and on other public lands, corpsmembers construct buildings, cabins, bridges, amphitheaters, picnic pavilions, playgrounds, campsites, docks, and restrooms. They plant trees, do landscaping, remove graffiti, clear trails, make wildlife habitat improvements, build small dams, and do dozens of other kinds of conservation, recreation, beautification, and infrastructure support projects. PCC corps work in rural, suburban, and urban areas throughout Pennsylvania.

Corpsmembers work in crews with four to eight other corpsmembers. It is this team-building, positive peer pressure and support that is at the heart of the success of the PCC and other conservation corps across America. There are young people—corpsmembers—working together on a project that benefits their community while earning a paycheck and learning new job and critical thinking skills. Indeed, for these reasons, the motto of the PCC is "Serve, Earn, Learn."

A trained, qualified adult supervises each crew of corpsmembers. In the PCC, we call these adults "crewleaders"; conservation corps in other parts of the country call them "crew supervisors." Crewleaders are teachers, role models, work site supervisors, counselors, public relations specialists, and general jacks-of-all-trades. Many of the young people in the PCC come to the program with few skills, many problems, and little job experience. It takes a special person with patience and commitment to be an effective crewleader. Whatever success the PCC has had over the years and will have in the future can be attributed to the hard work and diligence of the PCC's crewleaders. Crewleaders have two major tasks. They are responsible for the completion of the work project, and they are entrusted with the day-to-day mentoring and supervision of the young people.

At present, the PCC directly operates 50 local corps projects in rural areas throughout the state, enrolling and providing service opportunities for 280 corpsmembers. The PCC also helps support locally-administered corps in Philadelphia, McKeesport, Erie, Bradford, Williamsport, Reading, and Bethlehem. This summer, we are planning for up to 3,000 young people to participate in the summer corps in all 28 of Pennsylvania's Service Delivery Areas (SDAs are those substate regions designated under the federal Job Training Partnership Act).

Last week, the PCC submitted a request for $2.25 million for new youth corps projects to the federal Commission on National and Community Service. This request is part of Pennsylvania's $7.1 million application for these new federal funds that are earmarked for conservation and service corps, youth community service, and other innovative volunteer programs.

In summary, the PCC is built upon the legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s with an eye on America's labor market and environmental needs for the year 2000. The PCC works—and works well. The next section of my testimony validates this assertion.

BENEFITS OF CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAMS

Mr. Chairman, in your letter of March 12th inviting me to testify at this oversight hearing, you asked me to address the benefits which the PCC provides to young people, to our state, and to society as a whole. It is my pleasure to respond; I believe that you will be proud of the good work being done by the young people in our state.

CORPSMEMBER BENEFITS

The PCC provides young people with opportunities to serve, rather than feel alienated from, their communities. The work corpsmembers do is real work, not "make work," and corpsmembers are taught to appreciate the difference. Moreover, the PCC state law provides that corpsmembers can receive up to ten hours per week of education/corpsmember development services. The PCC central office staff and crewleaders encourage and perservere with each corpsmember to make sure that youth maximizes these opportunities which include:

GED and remedial education classes

Vocational training such as a carpentry, plumbing, and electrician classes

CPR and Red Cross fist aid training

Class III driver's license training and testing for earthmoving and heavy equipment operation

Firefighting and job safety training

Job-shadowing and career exploration, with an emphasis on private sector contacts and environmental careers

Life skills training on topics such as AIDS and sexually transmitted disease prevention, money management, teambuilding, and corpsmember-identified issues.

In the context of the PCC's corpsmember development focus, a major benefit that the PCC is trying to provide is work-site, experimental, "service-learning." This is the kind of education that the corpsmember learns on the job, rather than in a classroom. It is learning that corpsmembers use on the job and can use again in the future. The learning experiences can range from basic skill remediation, e.g. learning math by using a measuring tape, to more advanced subjects, e.g. identifying different types of trees and their respective properties for reforestation planning. The benefit for the corpsmembers is that they realize that learning is a life-long activity and that new kinds of learning are relevant to their day-to-day lives. This is especially important as it pertains to corpsmembers who have dropped out of school or who have marginal academic skills. The Service-learning opportunities provided by the PCC are as real, if not more real, than the more highly-publicized efforts of educational re-structuring and school reform.

The PCC is just starting to build a management information system (MIS) that formally captures and aggregates corpsmember benefits. My anecdotal experiences and conversations with corpsmembers generate two often-heard responses. First, many corpsmembers state that the PCC is the fist time that they have ever been successful in any endeavor and/or been recognized and appreciated for a job well done. The second benefit that corpsmembers appreciate stems from the PCC's crew concept, team-building approach, that is, corpsmembers recognize the value of learning to work cooperatively with other corpsmembers and follow the directions of the crewleader. Parenthetically, recent national studies and reports from the U.S. Department of Labor and various business groups identify these skills as those most in demand by employers as they look to hire new workers.

PCC BENEFITS TO PENNSYLVANIA

Since, 1984, corpsmembers have done work of real value and completed projects in 65 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties. Without the PCC, these projects would not have been completed. Below is a partial list of PCC projects completed in fiscal year '90-'91:

Recreation—One hundred twenty-three campsites, 12 cabins/lodges, 28 picnic areas, 456 picnic tables, 32 pavilions/shelters, 19 playgrounds, 3 amphitheaters, 2 community centers, 1 fishing deck, 332 mooring slips, 100 feet of dock, 310 miles of trails, and 1 swimming pool.

Conservation—Six pheasant brooder houses, 7,308 traps and nest boxes, 2 fish hatcheries, 96 acres of wildlife habitat improvements, 38 miles of stream improve-

ments, 152 acres of lake improvements, 340 acres of timber stand improvements, 122 miles of forest boundary improvements, 31 acres of landscaping, and 5,472 trees planted.

Infrastructure and Support—Ninety-six buildings, 32 bridges, 699 signs, 33 benches, 3 miles of road construction, 1,360 feet of walkways, 4,900 feet of drainage structures, 10 water supply/sewer collection structures, 200 miles of road rehab, 1,544 feet of traffic barriers, 19 miles of fencing, and 12 buildings cleaned of graffiti.

In addition to the PCC "productivity measures" listed above, the PCC has enabled 9,000+ young Pennsylvanians to earn a paycheck and provided employment for over 150 adult crewleaders. Furthermore, one of the criteria used in selecting a PCC subject (among applications from state and local agencies) is the "estimated potential revenue to be generated for the Commonwealth or its subdivisions." Many PCC projects, e.g. picnic pavilions, docks, and recreational areas, have produced hard cash for local governments and parks by means of rental fees and increased commerce.

BENEFITS OF YOUTH CORPS FOR SOCIETY

At a time in America when policy-makers are looking for "what works" and at which public investments produce positive outcomes and net savings in public expenditures, youth conservation corps offer real promise. Perhaps more importantly, young people themselves see the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps and analogue conservation and service corps in other states and communities as a viable first step towards their own economic self-sufficiency.

The bottom line for policymakers, public and private funders, employers, parents, and for all the rest of us is that the conservation corps model gives the young person the belief that he or she has a stake in the well-being of the community. This outcome far exceeds the results of any classroom civics lesson or any adult admonition to "shape up and be a good citizen."

Conservation corps ask young people to care about the environment and to care about themselves. Corps ask young people to give of themselves for the good of others. Guess what? The young people respond and work hard. Corps provide young people with tangible, down-to-earth ways that enable these youth to know that their work and ideas are important and respected by adults and by their peers. When a corpsmember builds a bridge, plants a grove of trees, puts out a forest fire, helps a community recover from a flood, constructs a handicapped accessible fishing pier, leads a nature tour of the park for school-age children, or is active in another such labor-intensive project, the corpsmember develops pride and a vested self-interest in the well-being and future of that area or community. As Jack Calhoun, executive director of the National Crime Prevention Council observes, "youth conservation corps enable young people to become resources for, rather than liabilities of their communities."

At a time when inner-city school dropout rates hover at 50% and as rural poverty and job loss climb, conservation corps help produce a better educated, better trained future work force. Corps move young people away from dependency on public systems, e.g. welfare and incarceration, and towards a life of self-sufficiency and civic responsibility.

Mr. Chairman, let me conclude this part of my testimony by admitting that conservation corps are not perfect; they do not work for every young person who could benefit by serving in a corps. But with eight years of experience under its belt, the PCC believes that conservation corps—with a mission of doing hard work that protects the environment—offers real promise as our nation transitions from a Cold War economy to a renewed commitment on domestic needs and priorities.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman, let me conclude my testimony with four recommendations for you and the members of the Subcommittee. These are four cost-effective ways that you can support the conservation corps movement:

(1) Support increased funding for the National and Community Service Act (P.L. 101-610), particularly for subtitle C, the "American Conservation and Youth Service Corps Programs." The current funding level for all titles of this law is $75 million; it should be increased to 120 million per year. We need more slots for more corpsmembers.

(2) As your deliberations continue as to how Pennsylvania and America respond to a reduction in military forces and a potential peace dividend, please keep the conservation corps in mind. From 1989 to 1991, 27284 young Pennsylvanians enlisted in all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces. It appears that the military will not be as

much of a future option for young people who are not college-bound, looking to break into the adult world-of-work and training, and who recognize the value that military discipline, rigor, uniforms, and sense of purpose provide. Conservation corps can meet this need, while also addressing the real health, environmental, and community development needs here at home.

(3) As your deliberations continue on possible legislation that would address America's infrastructure needs of repairing bridges, roads, and doing other labor-intensive public works projects, please keep the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps and other youth corps in mind. It is important to note here that the PCC and other corps do not displace, replace, dislocate, or jeopardize the jobs of paid workers or organized labor. The PCC has a healthy and cooperative relationship with the unions and workers in our state. This recommendation is consistent with our practice. I am asking that if infrastructure legislation is developed, hat a modest set aside be made available for conservation corps.

(4) The Subcommittee should consider policies and funding opportunities that will stimulate the use of state and local conservation corps on federal lands and especially in national parks. The existing PCC law does not have provisions or sufficient funding for operating corps on federal lands. The PCC and other corps leaders would be glad to work with you and the Subcommittee staff to think through a reasonable policy of incentives for corps to do such work on federal lands.

Again, Chairman Kostmayer, thank you for the opportunity to testify about the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps and for your commitment to providing opportunities for young people to improve the environment. I will be glad to respond to any questions.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Thank you, sir.

Mr. Bernheimer.

STATEMENT OF R.A. BERNHEIMER, INTERIM DIRECTOR, CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS

Mr. BERNHEIMER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to address this Committee today.

I'm Richard Bernheimer, Interim Director of the California Conservation Corps, also known like its predecessor of the 1930s, to which you referred earlier, as the CCC.

The California Conservation Corps is a state agency in its 16th year of operation. Its uniqueness is its dual mission—developing youth and enhancing the environment.

The CCC hires 18- to 23-year old young men and women, providing work, not welfare, to a cross-section of California youth. They receive education and training, counseling, job preparation opportunities. Many fit the definition of at-risk youth; about half are high school dropouts.

The success of the CCC is rooted in its comprehensive whole-person approach with corpsmembers fully involved in working and learning. And our record is a strong one and growing.

More than 50,000 young people have participated in the CCC. And more than 35 million hours of natural resources work has been accomplished for federal, state and local agencies. This includes four million hours of emergency response work fighting fires, floods, earthquakes and oilspills.

There are other youth development programs; there are other work programs; there are other job training programs; and there are still other environmental programs. But it's unusual to find a way of combining these within one program and, most significantly for a single investment.

Youth and Conservation Corps provide this opportunity, offering the greatest bang for the buck.

Congressman McCloskey mentioned the return for the investment; I would refer to that. We had a study done a number of years ago which is old enough that I wouldn't want to stand firmly behind it, but it showed a return of $1.76 for each dollar spent. Even if that's somewhat higher than it might be today, I think the point is we do get a fair return for the dollar.

Taxpayers benefit from thousands of projects to improve and enhance the Nation's natural resources. Poorer areas where we operate benefit by receiving work on projects they can't afford, particularly in our rural counties. The Corps' payroll in these areas and purchases provide benefits to local economies.

And the Corpsmembers leave well prepared for the job market, benefiting not only themselves but employers, large and small. We concentrate not only on job skills but on the work ethic as one of the members asked about earlier. It's a major emphasis in the program—getting to work on time and learning responsibility.

One young woman who worked on the Oakland Hills fire recovery efforts last fall was Carla, a black mother of three. She joined the Corps seeking something better for herself and her children. The CCC is hard work and minimum wage did not deter her. To the contrary, she looked at the devastation around her and said, I never dreamed I'd be doing something this important.

It was quite moving. I was talking to her when she made that statement. And I've used it in a number of quotes since.

I also recently spoke with a young Hispanic Corpsmembers who grew up in the Los Angeles barrio, surrounded by gang activity. He told me that he saw as many as 20 of his friends die in gang activity.

And he could have easily stayed in that environment, if not for a priest that referred him to the Corps. But he's adapted to the Corps life and he's recently been elected to the Corpsmember Council at his center.

These are but two of the hundreds of CCC success stories. But what worries us most about the current economic climate is the declining ability of the CCC and other Corps to assist these and other young people, as well as the environment.

As a state agency, the CCC is primarily funded from the State General Fund revenue. In the state fiscal crisis of the last few years the Corps' budget in California has been reduced by nearly 30 percent.

To mitigate the serious impact of these cuts, the CCC has turned to a fee-for-service work process, seeking reimbursement from federal, state and local agencies, as well as from private enterprise. Reimbursements now account for about ten percent of our budget.

Increasingly, the CCC and similar programs must go where reimbursement dollars are. The bottom line is a reduced ability to provide environmental work where it is most needed and fewer Corpsmembers to do that work.

The CCC has devoted nearly 250,000 each year to assist federal agencies alone, such as the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Army Corps of Engineers and the National Park Service.

One of our most outstanding programs is a partnership with the Park Service called our Back Country Trails Program—the toughest work and most profound experience that Corpsmembers can

have. Each year from April to September we send crews to the Yosemite, King's Canyon and Sequoia National Parks and a number of National Forests to do high country construction and meadow restoration work.

According to the Sequoia/King's Canyon Superintendent, J. Tom Ritter, his current budget only permits washouts and minor trail maintenance work. He has told us that the CCC has for many years provided the only source of trail restoration and construction work in the high country. With our growing need for fees for our services, this valuable work is in growing jeopardy.

There is a way for Congress to help us maintain our level of work with federal agencies. In the budget process and in the legislation involving environmental work on public lands, Congress should create control language, encouraging federal agencies to contract with Youth and Conservation programs such as ours for their work wherever possible.

And rather than allocating funds directly to Youth Corps, as some may advocate, we would favor earmarking or adding to agency budgets funds for this purpose with the proper language.

We've had a longstanding work history with federal agencies, something we hope will continue and grow in the years ahead.

We appreciate the opportunity to share these thoughts with you today, Mr. Chairman and Committee. And we'll be glad to provide any further information about our program.

I would also like to extend an invitation to you to visit our program when the opportunity arises.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Bernheimer, including attachments, follows]

STATEMENT OF RICHARD BERNHEIMER, INTERIM DIRECTOR, CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to address you today. I am Richard Bernheimer, Interim Director of the California conservation Corps, also know, like its predecessor of the 1930's, as the CCC.

The California Conservation Corps is a State agency in its 16th year of operation. Its uniqueness is its dual mission—developing youth and enhancing the environment.

The CCC hires 18-23 year-old men and women * * * providing work, not welfare, to a cross-section of California youth. They receive education and training, counselling, and job preparation opportunities. Many fit the definition of "at risk" youth; about half are high school dropouts.

The success of the CCC is rooted in its comprehensive, whole person approach, with corpsmembers fully involved in working and learning. Our record is strong and growing—more than 50,000 young people have participated in the corps—and more than 35 million hours of natural resource work have been accomplished for Federal, State, and local agencies. This includes four million hours of emergency response work—fighting fires, floods, earthquakes, and oil spills.

There are other youth development programs—there are other work programs—and there are still other environmental programs. But it is unusual to find all three combined within one program—and for a single investment. Youth and Conservation Corps provide this opportunity—offering the greatest "bang for the buck."

Taxpayers, benefit from thousands of projects to improve and enhance the Nation's natural resources. Poorer areas benefit by receiving work on projects they can't fund. The corps' payroll and purchases provide economic benefits to local communities. And the corpsmembers leave well-prepared for the job market—benefiting not only themselves but employers large and small.

One young woman who worked on the Oakland Hills fire recovery efforts last fall was Carla, a black mother of three. She joined the corps, seeking something better for herself and her children. Did the CCC's hard work and minimum wage deter

her? No, to the contrary. She looked at the devastation around her and said "I never dreamed I'd be doing something as important as this."

Then there is Christian, a Hispanic corpsmember, who grew up in Los Angeles Barrio surrounded by gang activity. He experienced the deaths of many friends, and could have easily stayed in that rut, if not for a priest who referred him to the corps. But he's adapted easily to CCC life, and was elected president of the corpsmember council

Carla and Christian are but two of our successful stories. What worries us most about the current economic climate is the declining ability of the corps to assist these and other young people, as well as the environment.

As a State agency, the CCC is primarily funded from State general fund revenue. In the State fiscal crisis of the last few years, the corps' budget has declined more than 20 percent. To mitigate the serious impact of these cuts, the CCC has turned to fee-for-service work, seeking reimbursements from Federal, State, and local agencies as well as private enterprise. This now accounts for 10 percent of our budget.

Increasingly, the CCC and similar programs must go where the reimbursement dollars are. The bottom line is a reduced ability to provide environmental work where it is most needed, and less corpmembers to do that work.

The CCC has devoted nearly 250,000 hours each year to assist Federal agencies such as the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Army corps of Engineers, and the National Park Service. One outstanding partnership is with the Park Service—our backcountry trails program—the toughest and most profound experience corpsmembers can have in the CCC.

Each year, from April to September, we send crews to Yosemite, Kings Canyon, and Sequoia National Parks—and numerous national forests—to do high country trail construction and meadow restoration work.

According to Seqoia/Kings Canyon Superintendent J.T. Ritter, his current budget only permits repairs of washouts and minor trail maintenance. He says the CCC has for many years provided the only source of trail restoration and construction in the high country.

There is one way Congress could help us maintain our level of work with Federal agencies. In the budget process and in legislation involving environmental work on public lands, Congress could create control language, encouraging Federal agencies to contract with Youth and Conservation Corps programs such as ours wherever possible. And rather than allocating funds directly to youth corps, we would favor earmarking agency budget funds for this purpose.

We've had a longstanding work history with Federal agencies—something we hope will continue and grow in the years ahead. We appreciate the opportunity to share these thoughts with you, Mr. Chairman, and would be glad to provide any further information about our program which might be helpful.

Thank you very much.

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R.A. Barnhelmer, Interim Director

California Conservation Corps

WHAT IS THE CCC?

The California Conservation Corps is a work ethic program with a dual mission: the employment and development of young people, and the conservation and enhancement of the state's natural resources. To carry out this mission, the CCC has established residential centers throughout the state, as well as nonresidential satellite locations and a training Academy.

MOTTO

The CCC's motto is "Hard work, low pay, miserable conditions ... and more!"

HISTORY OF THE CCC

The CCC is modeled after the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s. In Jl. 1976, legislation was passed creating the California Conservation Corps. The program was renewed on a temporary basis until 1983, when it was made a permanent state department. The California Conservation Corps has now surpassed the original CCC in years of operation, and is the largest program of its kind.

THE CORPSMEMBERS

There are only four requirements for joining the CCC. Men and women must be: 1) between the ages of 18 and 23; 2) not on probation or parole; 3) California residents; and 4) willing to work hard. Corpsmembers come from throughout the state, from urban as well as rural areas. Some corpsmembers have attended college, others never completed high school. They represent a wide range of ethnic groups.

THE WORK

The CCC provides more than three million hours of public service conservation work and emergency assistance to the state each year. Corpsmembers may put in their day's work in the wilderness, planting trees, cutting trails, or clearing streams; in cities, building playgrounds, restoring historic buildings, or revitalizing downtown centers; or even indoors, answering an energy hotline or conducting energy audits. During emergencies, CCC crews sandbag levees, fight forest fires and mudslides, help eradicate pests, and provide clean-up assistance following earthquakes and oil spills.

THE PAY

Corpsmembers receive minimum wage, less costs for room and meals. After successfully completing four months in the CCC, they can earn a ten percent pay increase. Then, after successfully completing a year, corpsmembers earn a $400 bonus and can receive up to $800 to help cover expenses while furthering their education after the CCC.

THE CCC WORK ETHIC

One of the CCC's primary aims is the development of good work habits; training in specific technical skills is secondary. California's business community has found that punctuality, teamwork, and responsibility are important qualities for any employee to have. Employers know that CCC graduates will show up on time, can follow directions and accept supervision, and will put in a hard day's work.

THE FIVE RULES

The CCC has five main rules, and breaking any one of them is grounds for termination. They are: no alcohol, no drugs, no violence, no refusal to work, and no destruction of property.

PROJECT SPONSORS

The CCC works for federal, state, county, city, and other local project sponsors, as well as for nonprofit agencies. Typical sponsors include the U.S. Forest Service (federal); Department of Fish and Game and the Department of Parks and Recreation (state); the Los Angeles County Public Works Department (county); and the East Bay Regional Parks District (regional).

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

THE WORK/LEARN APPROACH

The CCC uses the workday as a context for education and training. The work/learn approach integrates the Corps' work and youth development, fostering learning beyond the classroom.

INCREASING ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE, CAREER SKILLS

After a full workday, corpsmembers spend several evenings a week in academic, conservation, and career development activities. These include:

- **Strengthening education skills**, by taking adult education or basic education programs to receive a high school diploma or GED, or enrolling in advance courses through the community colleges, with tuition paid for by the CCC.
- **Preparing for careers**, putting together resumes, learning to fill out job applications, and practicing for job interviews. Corpsmembers are continually encouraged, and assisted, in applying for jobs in their fields of interest.
- **Conservation awareness**, promoting an understanding of the environmental principles behind the work done by the CCC.

CCC SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Once in the CCC, corpsmembers have a number of opportunities to pursue, including:

- **Energy Conservation**. The CCC's Placer Energy Center offers the most technical type of training in the CCC. Corpsmembers receive instruction in electricity, construction, and solar heating principles; they conduct energy audits and retrofit public buildings with energy-saving devices.
- **Stream Enhancement**. Under the direction of the Department of Fish and Game, corpsmembers along the North Coast tackle tough stream clearance and habit improvement work, to restore the salmon and steelhead populations.
- **Backcountry Trails**. Each year the CCC sends more than 75 corpsmembers in the high country of Yosemite and other national parks to build trails and restore meadows.
- **Helitack**. In a program with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, about 50 corpsmembers become part of the helicopter crews involved in the air attack on forest fires.

LOCAL CORPS

Besides the CCC, nine nonprofit local corps are now operating in California. The state monies they receive are matched with local funds to provide a CCC-type experience to greater numbers of high school dropouts and youth in urban areas.

NETWORKING FOR STRENGTH

California's businesses are engaged in partnerships with the CCC to promote the employability of corpsmembers; local CCC Community Advisory Boards have been established to actively involve community leaders, public officials, and other key citizens in the mission of the Corps.

MODEL FOR THE NATION

The CCC stands today as a model for youth employment and conservation programs worldwide. More than 45 countries and the European Economic Community have contacted and/or visited the CCC. In the U.S., many states have programs modeled after California's.

Since 1976, more than 50,000 young men and women have been a part of the CCC.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Thank you, Mr. Bernheimer.

Let me ask you first, Mr. Bernheimer, how much you're spending on this in California?

Mr. BERNHEIMER. Our current year budget is $51 million.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And how do you raise that money?

Mr. BERNHEIMER. About 65 percent of that is General Fund money. As I mentioned, about ten percent is from reimbursements from fees. And we have contracts with a number of states agencies for ongoing works. We have a $1.3 million with our Highway Department; we have a million dollar a year contract with our Fish and Game Department to do stream habitat restoration.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And that's what you're suggesting the National Program——

Mr. BERNHEIMER. Well, for example, if you appropriate money to any of the National Park or Forests, if that money had strings attached that priority be given to contracted programs such as ours, we would benefit significantly.

We're in a position to serve them. We've in a position, with our current staffing and infrastructure to practically double the Corps at about half the cost of our current average cost per Corpsmember.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. You said there are a number of youth, a number of job programs.

What makes this one different?

Mr. BERNHEIMER. Well, I think the fact that it does combine so many things in one. We do training; there's a required education component; there's skill training; there's productive work being performed. There's the whole-person approach where we're dealing with the person's self-esteem, work habits.

Some programs have just a training component. People go—like the Job Corps frequently—just to a classroom to learn a skill. We provide not only the skill training but productive work comes out at the other end.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And it's targeted specifically toward young people?

Mr. BERNHEIMER. 18 to 23-year olds. Within that group it's relatively untargeted, although we do a lot of our recruitment within the urban areas.

There's no other requirement for entry except being 18 to 23, not on probation or parole at the time.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. The young people who are involved in the program, what portion of them have been welfare recipients?

Mr. BERNHEIMER. I don't have that statistic. Because a lot of youth aren't directly on welfare; it might come through a family grant.

We do have a lot of homeless youth referred to us and we in fact try to make it possible to fast-track them in since they are homeless. Unlike many of the other programs, we're fortunate in that we have a largely residential program. Three-quarters of our Corpsmembers actually live in camps that we operate and maintain.

That's why we're in a position to do so much work for the public lands. Because we are in more rural areas.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. What portion of them are homeless youngsters?

Mr. BERNHEIMER. I would say a relatively small percentage, maybe in the two to five percent. But we're serving 3000 plus youth a year. We have 1670 annualized positions right now.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. How many youngsters are you serving currently?

Mr. BERNHEIMER. About 3500 a year.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. How many could you serve; how many are you turning away?

Mr. BERNHEIMER. Well, that's a number that's a little hard.

We have a recruitment process where we try not to build a backlog. With the young people we're dealing with, if you get more than a month of backlog and names, it becomes very hard to rely on the list being good. So we recruit maybe one to two intakes—we have an intake every two weeks—ahead.

We would have no trouble recruiting five times——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. But you've set an artificial ceiling on your backlog then?

Mr. BERNHEIMER. Yes.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. But if you didn't set that artificial ceiling on your backlog, what would it be?

Mr. BERNHEIMER. We have done some major hiring campaigns when our backlog dried up and we could get six months worth of people in one fell swoop without any trouble. We've done that a number of times.

And right now in this economy——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, give me an estimate. You're meeting ten percent or 30 percent or 90 percent of the need in California?

Mr. BERNHEIMER. Not even five percent of the need.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Not even meeting five percent of the need.

Mr. BERNHEIMER. 3000 people is nothing with a population of 20-some million.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And the reason is?

Mr. BERNHEIMER. Dollars.

We have one of the largest programs in the country and we're only serving an infinitesimal small number of people.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. How do you know the program works; how do you know the program works in deterring people from going back on welfare, getting into a life of crime or drugs, unemployment?

Mr. BERNHEIMER. We don't have really iron-clad research to demonstrate what happens to all the people who leave. Most of what we know is from following up on an informal basis with short-term small studies.

But I think the people who come in learn a lot of skills. They leave with a lot better self-esteem. They're much better prepared to face the world than when they came in. And I think they're——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Where would these young people get these skills if you didn't provide them? Are there other programs they could take advantage of?

Mr. BERNHEIMER. Well, all the programs that you heard today are very limited in how many people they can serve. I think they'd be hard-pressed to find alternatives.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Mr. Mathis, you've asked, I think, for $2.25 million for the new Youth Corps projects from the Commission that Congressman McCloskey is chairing.

Mr. MATHIS. That's correct.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. If Pennsylvania receives that amount, how will it be spent; can you tell us?

Mr. MATHIS. We'll spend two million on year-round Corps which serve 18 to 25-year olds. That will enable us to serve about 100 to 120 Corpsmembers, depending on how long they stay.

We'll spend the balance, $250,000, in our Summer Corps program, which we match with Federal Job Training Partnership. That will enable us to enroll another 870 Summer Corpsmembers this summer.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Is there a cost per youngster to this program?

Mr. MATHIS. There's a cost per youngster and it's important, when we start talking about the cost per youngster, that we remember that they receive a minimum wage for their work. And that gets factored into the cost; that wage gets factored into the cost per youngster.

So if we're talking about $10,000 to $11,000 per year, remember that $8800 of that is the minimum wage per year.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Mr. Bernheimer said that his state was meeting, he thought, probably less than five percent of the need.

How about our state?

Mr. MATHIS. I would say less than five percent.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. So there are many more?

Mr. MATHIS. Absolutely.

I mean with the staff, which we don't have, and the resources we could identify, we could quadruple the program rapidly.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. All right.

Mr. Engbretson, let me ask you about the Philadelphia Ranger Corps program, which is funded by the William Penn Foundation.

Is that funded entirely by the Foundation?

Mr. ENGBRETSON. Virtually so, yes. There's no public money in the program.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And do you have any idea how long that funding will be available or what other means of support are available if that——

Mr. ENGBRETSON. We are talking with the Foundation now about a continuing grant for another year, perhaps two years. We are in the process of restructuring now. It's going to be a much smaller program than it has in the past with the education component very much diminished.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. It's going to be a smaller program in the sense that you're going to reduce the number of young people involved?

Mr. ENGBRETSON. That's right.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And the number of young people involved currently—Mr. Williams told me this earlier but I forget—is how many?

Mr. ENGBRETSON. We currently have 18 full-time Rangers and 40 people in training. Over the course of four years, we've had 180 young people coming into the full two-year program.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. So it's 18 and 40, and you're going to reduce that to what?

Mr. ENGBRETSON. I hope we can stay at the 18. We may have to reduce that somewhat.

But the incoming training programs at the college level will be eliminated.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. So you'll eliminate those 40 spots for training youngsters?

Mr. ENGBRETSON. That's right.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And try to hold onto the 18. But you're not sure you can do that?

Mr. ENGBRETSON. Well, we're trying very hard.

Right now we're involved in typical fund-raising in the community and we still expect that in the long-term we're going to be a public/private venture. At this point it's entirely private.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Are you eligible for funds from Congressman McCloskey's group?

Mr. ENGBRETSON. It appears so, yes. Because of some changes that the enabling legislation of the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps that has just gone through

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And are you going to apply?

Mr. ENGBRETSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. All right. Thank you.

Mr. MATHIS. Isn't that why you had us sit together, Mr. Kostmayer?

Mr. KOSTMAYER. That's right. That's right.

The gentleman from Indiana.

Mr. JONTZ. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I want to thank this panel and the other witnesses, that regrettably I wasn't able to hear, and just make one comment to all of you who are here this morning that are involved as participants or Administrators or supporters of these programs.

And that is thank you for the good work that you do. And thanks for being here today to call the importance of these programs to the attention of the Congress.

One of the mysteries that I have pondered over the years of being in public service as an elected official is why this sort of idea, which is so universally popular, so thoroughly proven as successful, and so obvious in its need, hasn't received the support at the federal level that it should. I really don't understand why.

I think you could go to any community in this country and go down the street and you'd be hard-pressed to find someone who wouldn't be in favor of what you're doing. And I think in any community in the country you could recruit the people to participate in a matter of days.

And why it is, when we as a nation, bemoan the problems facing our youth, and we look at the needs in our environment, and we look at the needs in our communities, and then we somehow fail to have the political will to put some resources or put more substantial resources in your programs, I don't understand it—never have understood it.

I don't know what needs to happen to bring about that political will, but you today have given us renewed reason to make the effort. And I thank you for the good work you're doing. It is very important to our country. So we hope that we can be better partners in your efforts.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Mr. Mathis, did you want to explain to the Subcommittee why this kind of program doesn't have the support which both Mr. Jontz and I think it ought to have in our country? I have an idea, but what is your idea?

Mr. MATHIS. And I'm interested obviously in yours also, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. My idea is that the people it serves are generally powerless.

Mr. MATHIS. That's absolutely correct. I mean words right out of my mouth, thank you.

About 45 percent of our Corpsmembers don't have high school education; they don't have power; they don't have access to power.

That's why we had Eleazar and Allyssa come down, so they could get a taste and then go back and talk to other people. And once they have power, and they learn they can build a bridge or do a project or do something good, and they get some adult support and leadership, and they are encouraged to be good citizens, and they're asked to do what John Kennedy asked them to do, and they're given some adult role-modeling behavior, then they get the power. Then they vote; then they advocate; and then they stand up. It really is the power issue.

Mr. JONTZ. Well, I appreciate that response and I understand and agree with the focus of many of these programs on young people who come from those areas and are struggling in those ways.

But, on the other hand, I think there are young people from all different socioeconomic backgrounds that are craving for this sort of experience. And it's a way that people from different walks of life in this country can be integrated.

Just the way that Social Security enjoys universal support in our country, because it's a program that people have earned and that everyone participates in, it would seem to me that Youth Conservation Corps programs would also enjoy a broad source of support.

So, Mr. Mathis, I don't disagree with your analysis. But it seems to me that we, in the Congress, ought to be able to sell this program as something which is good for Americans from all walks of life. And when we see the problems of racism, and when we see the problems with regard to the conflicts among people in this country on the street as well as nationally, one would think that folk in the Congress could understand that this is a way that we could bridge some of those gaps in the communities where these things happen and could have a positive influence. One of the things we could do from Washington, not to tear people apart, but to put them together.

Because when you're working together and have to depend on someone who may be of a different color or come from a different neighborhood or have a different religious belief, when you have to depend on someone like that, that's different from you, then you develop some understanding of them as an individual. And that's what happens in your programs.

I thank the Chairman.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. I appreciate the words of the gentleman from Indiana with whom I agree. This is a program which apparently

works. It's a practical program; it's very effective and we need to provide more funding.

The fact of the matter is that this Administration has turned its back on the cities and on poor people and on the kinds of people that this program serves. We need to change that. We'll do our best to do so.

I thank all of the panelists for appearing.

We call our fourth and final panel. Ms. Kathleen Selz, the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps, Executive Director; Mr. Destry Jarvis, Student Conservation Association, the Executive Vice President; Ms. Margaret Rosenberry, Youth Service America, the Director, Finance and Administration.

[Brief pause.]

Mr. JONTZ. Your entire statements will be made a part of the record as submitted, and please proceed in the order in which you were announced.

Thank you.

PANEL CONSISTING OF KATHLEEN SELZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SERVICE AND CONSERVATION CORPS; MARGARET ROSENBERRY, YOUTH SERVICE AMERICA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION; AND DESTRY JARVIS, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, STUDENT CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF KATHLEEN SELZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SERVICE AND CONSERVATION CORPS

Ms. SELZ. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Members of the Subcommittee, and my colleagues in the Youth Service Community.

It is my privilege to speak this morning on behalf of the national network of state and local service and conservation corps. They are the members of NASCC, the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps.

You have already heard this morning from Corpsmembers and from Corps program directors who can tell you far more accurately and far more eloquently than I about the benefits of the Youth Corps movement to young people and to our public lands and to other communities as well.

So I would just like to briefly provide an overview of the field, the current status of the Youth Corps field, and some recommendations that derive from what we've already heard this morning.

Basically there are about 60, perhaps 65, state and local service corps around the country. The field is relatively small and young, but it is amazingly diverse for its size.

Twenty or so of the Corps have existed for more than eight years and are mature. The remaining 40 to 45 are young, and we might best describe them as emerging.

Collectively, the Corps provide approximately 20,000 young people annually with a combined educational and work experience that you've heard about here today.

Budgets for the statewide year-round Corps range from as little as $250,000 in New Hampshire right up to the $51 million of the California Conservation Corps, which is the oldest and largest in the country.

Local year-round Corps operate on budgets ranging from $300,000 up to a relatively whopping $5.8 million in New York City, the City's Volunteer Corps.

The age of the Corps varies a great deal. We have 12 new local urban Service Corps launched under the Urban Corps Expansion Program within the past two years, and a new one here in D.C. The D.C. Service Corps will celebrate its first anniversary later this summer.

I think that it's important to point out that the Youth Corps field is still evolving. It is not one static model. The basic Corps model features are focused on 16- to 23-year-old young people who are not necessarily college-bound.

However, some Corps have moved beyond that basic population and are reaching downward to younger children in junior high, creating after school and summer Corps experiences for them as a preventative rather than a remedial intervention. And others are looking for ways to channel their most promising Corpsmembers into college and professional careers.

The diversity that exists among the Corps is evidenced as well by the kinds of work projects that the Corpsmembers do. Each Corpsmember performs hundreds of hours of service, community service, annually.

Some work on conservation and resource management projects in national, state and local parks. Others work to conserve urban parks and recreation areas, to renovate housing and other community facilities and to help an array of public and private agencies meet the human services needs of vulnerable citizens.

Funding for the Corps—a question that was asked earlier—comes from diverse sources—state and local government agencies, foundations and corporate grants, JTPA, community development block grants and considerable fee-for-service revenues.

Some of our local Corps cover up to 85 percent of their budgets with earned income. They very cleverly and skillfully bid out on work projects. And the volunteers perform the work, and either private non-profit or municipal agencies in turn reimburse the agency. Those Corps are incredibly cost effective. They are basically paying their own way.

It doesn't allow for many luxuries, I might add, in the way of environmental education or other educational enrichment. But the Corps program is financed essentially by fee-for-service revenue.

All of the Corps, diverse as they are, share one basic problem—a chronic scarcity of funding. That is one reason why we are delighted to have a new federal partner, the Commission on National and Community Service.

This summer we expect to see the first infusion of targeted federal dollars, $22.5 million, that has come along in more than a decade when the Commission awards its first grants. We hope to see these come to new Corps, including one being planned in the State of Indiana; to support to existing Corps, in Pennsylvania and, I might add, in Colorado.

The Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Corps noted that there were gangs in Colorado. I wish that Mr. Hefley were here so that I could tell him that there are also Youth Corps in Colorado,

the Denver Urban Conservation Corps and another called the Colorado Youth Lions working in a more rural area.

We treasure this small but vital infusion of funding that is coming to us through Sub-Title C of the National and Community Service Act. And we thank you for your interest as well.

Because the fact of the matter is that we have the young people; we have the work that desperately needs to be done. What we don't have is sufficient funding to bring the two together.

And so, unlike my federal colleagues, I guess I'm not shy in saying that what we do need is more money.

The Corps directors are as clever a group of professionals as I have ever encountered in piecing funding together. But without a major infusion of resources, the Corps will stay basically small, serving what you have already heard today to be less than five percent of the young people who could benefit from this experience and who want to do it.

As you and your colleagues think about the best ways to expand public service opportunities for young people in conservation, we strongly urge that you factor in the existing state and local Corps. They would bring the values and the expertise that you are seeking.

Moreover, even our local Corps, the one operating in New York City, for instance, have the skills that could make a very distinct difference if brought into National Parks and Forests, whether they're doing front country or back country work.

I talked with our folks in New York a couple of days ago and said, okay, what do you do in the middle of Manhattan or the Bronx that you could do in a wilderness area, perhaps a front country wilderness area?

And they promptly came back with a list of 12 things including erosion control, tree pruning, bulb and tree planting, propagation of seeds and nurseries, grassland and meadow restoration.

So, even though many of our Corps are local and are urban, it would be an extraordinary experience to create a new dimension for the work these young people do by affording them the opportunity to work in National Parks, Forests and Wildlife Refuges.

We would also like to recommend that, as you think about what you're going to do, you consider the Commission on National and Community Service as a true partner in your efforts. The Commission already has a mandate that complements your objectives today of bringing the needs of young people and the environment together. And we think that they can be a very strong ally indeed.

We appreciate this opportunity to share our thoughts with you as you begin deliberating. And we're looking forward to working with you on this very exciting initiative.

[Prepared statement of Ms. Selz follows:]

STATEMENT OF KATHLEEN SELZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SERVICE AND CONSERVATION CORPS

Mr. Chairman, members of the Subcommittee and colleagues in the youth service community, it is my privilege to speak this morning on behalf of the national network of youth conservation and service corps programs. Let me begin by saying how pleased we are, Mr. Chairman, about your interest in expanding opportunities for young people to contribute to the restoration and preservation of our natural resources. We appreciate this opportunity to share our collective thoughts.

I have brought along materials that will introduce you to NASCC and its members—more than 60 state and local youth corps across the United States. These include some of the oldest and largest, such as the California Conservation Corps, and some of the newest, including 12 local urban corps that have been launched within the past two years under the Urban Corps Expansion Project (UCEP)—a national demonstration jointly sponsored by Public/Private Ventures and NASCC. And, of course, we have a new corps right here in Washington—the D.C. Service Corps—that will celebrate its first anniversary this summer.

For those not familiar with youth corps, they are most easily described as the contemporary version of the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s and the legacy of the Youth Conservation Corps and the Young Adult Conservation Corps of the 1970s. Corps give young adults—most of whom did not fare well in the traditional educational system—a second chance at developing the academic, employment and life skills they need to enter the work force and become productive citizens.

Each corpsmember performs hundreds of hours of valuable community service work. Some provide conservation and resource management services in national and state parks and forests; others work to conserve urban parks and recreation areas, to renovate housing and other community facilities, and to help an array of public and private human services agencies meet the needs of vulnerable citizens of all ages.

This extra dimension of public service makes the corps much more than just another employment and training program. It turns young people into resources rather than problems. Quite simply, youth corps are in the business of changing lives. The young people who are with us this morning from the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps can tell you far more eloquently than I about just how the corps accomplish this mission.

STATUS OF THE YOUTH CORPS FIELD

A scan of the youth corps community today reveals a field that is relatively small, young, but amazingly diverse for its size. It is composed of 20 or so "nature" corps that are more than eight years old and approximately 45 more that might best be described as "emerging." Collectively the corps provide approximately 20,000 young people annually with a combined educational and work experience through both year-round and summer programs. Budgets for statewide year-round corps programs range from as little as $250,000 to the California Conservation Corps'; $48 million; local year-round corps operate on budgets ranging from $300,000 to the New York City's City Volunteer Corps' $5.8 million.

Many corps serve primarily disadvantaged teens and young adults. However, programs such as City Year in Boston, the Washington State Service Corps and the Student Conservation Association also provide large numbers of mainstream, college-bound high school students and college graduates with service opportunities.

It is importing to point out that the youth corps field is still evolving. The basic corps model focuses on 16–23 year-old youth who are not college bound. Yet, some corps have already gone beyond that population and are reaching downward to junior high school students for summer and after-school corps programs. Others are looking for ways to channel their most promising corpsmembers into college and professional careers.

Funding for the corps comes from diverse sources—state and local government agencies, foundation and corporate grants, JTPA, Community Development Block Grants and considerable fee-for-service revenue. The field has essentially grown up and survived without targeted federal support, as funding for state Youth Conservation Corps and Young Adult Conservation Corps was virtually eliminated in 1981. (While a separate appropriation is no longer available, we are fortunate that the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service have sustained YCC operations with funds from their own operating budgets, albeit at a significantly reduced level from the height of the YCC program in the late 1970s.)

That is one reason why we are delighted to have a federal partner—the new Commission on National and Community Service—at last. We expect to see the first infusion of federal funds in more than a decade, when the commission awards its first grants under Subtitle C of the National and Community Service Act to existing and new corps early this summer. We treasure this small but vital $22.5 million coming our way and are grateful for your interest as well, for the vast potential of youth is truly hampered only by the chronic scarcity of funding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The current network of state and local corps is strong, but small, and reaches only a fraction of the young people who could benefit from and are ready to serve in full time youth service programs. Likewise, public land management agencies struggle to maintain our national treasures with diminished budgets and personnel.

As you and your colleagues consider how best to expand public service opportunities for young people in conservation, we strongly urge that you factor the existing state and local youth corps into your plans, as they would bring the values and expertise in youth development and conservation practices that you and public land managers seek. Even our local urban corps have the skills that can make a difference in our national parks and forests.

We also recommend that you consider the Commission on National and Community Service as a partner in your efforts, as it already has a mandate that truly complements your goal of bringing the needs of young people and the environment together.

Again, we appreciate this opportunity to share our thoughts with you early on in your deliberations and we look forward to working with you on an exciting initiative.

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New Director/Address changes

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CONSERVATION AND SERVICE CORPS PROFILES

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CONSERVATION AND SERVICE CORPS PROFILES

Across the nation, some 75 states, cities, and counties operate year-round and summer conservation and service corps programs. The combined annual budgets of these programs total $180 million. At least 20,000 young people 12-26 serve in the programs each year. Through hard work, the young people produce impressive benefits for their communities.

The corps of today have their roots in the public lands projects of the New Deal era Civilian Conservation Corps, the more recent federal Youth and Young Adult Conservation Corps programs, and local expressions of interest in testing and developing new concepts of national youth service. Without a doubt, the recent upsurge in interest in youth service has fueled and supported the expansion of the corps network, building upon these roots and infusing the movement with innovations and renewed energy. Corpsmembers still build trails and fight fires, but now they also perform human service projects. In several locations, corpsmembers now assist the homebound elderly, provide support services for teachers of the mentally handicapped, and deliver food to the hungry.

Corps have retained the solid structure that makes them so effective at the varied projects they undertake. The design of corps programs varies somewhat, but all corps provide meaningful long-lasting public services, develop employable youth, and instill social values such as citizenship and a sense of community. Corpsmembers work in crews of eight to twelve for minimal wages or stipends. Most corps expose participants to basic skills training; some offer worksite training opportunities and job readiness programs.

Each year, we welcome additions to the corps movement. Urban corps in Albany, Baton Rouge, Jackson, Miami and Winston-Salem began operation in 1990 alone, and Durham and Kansas City, MO in March of 1991, reflecting the continuing rapid growth of the corps network. The new corps reflect and present many models of corps development for other cities and states. Planning efforts that apply some of these models are already underway in several states and cities.

On November 16, 1990 President Bush signed the National and Community Service Act of 1990. This law provides federal funds to establish school-based and full-time youth corps programs. Youth corps development is funded at $16.5 million for FY 1990 with another $22 million appropriated for national demonstrations. The programs will be administered by a Commission on National Service which must be appointed by the President before funds can be released. As of this writing, Commissioners had not yet been appointed. States can apply to the Commission for one or more programs authorized under the law when the Commission is in place and regulations have been written. For additional program information or a summary of the Law, contact NASCC.

These tables profile the corps programs of which we are aware, providing basic information about them and identifying their leaders. Methods of accounting vary, so the funding levels (mostly representing 1990) the tables show are not necessarily comparable from corps to corps. The Center will be happy to provide details on the structure and function of each corps, and earnestly invites corrections and additions.

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YEAR-ROUND CORPS

State and Provincial Programs

Program	Annual Budget	Ages/# of Participants	Funding Sources	Administration/Work Sponsors	Comments/Special Features
Arizona Conservation Corps Frank W. Solvie, Executive Director 800 W. Washington Phoenix, AZ 85007 602/542-9222 602/542-3585 Fax	$1 million	Ages: 18-25 #: 100	State appropriations, sponsoring public agencies and non-profit organizations, corporate and private grants and contributions	Administered by a governor appointed Commission. State Parks Board provides administrative support. Contracts with public agencies and non-profit organizations for conservation work, community service and emergency assistance throughout the state.	Emphasis on diversity of workforce and work experience. Runs an education and development component and is developing an in-school and summer component. Corpsmembers completing one year receive a $500 incentive or voucher for one semester tuition at any State university.
California Conservation Corps Bud Sheble, Director 1530 Capitol Avenue Sacramento, CA 95814 916/445-0169 916/323-4989 Fax	$58 million	Ages: 18-23 #: 2200	State appropriation	Administered as a division of the California Resources Agency. Contracts with federal, state and local government agencies and non-profit organizations for conservation work, community service and emergency assistance in cities and rural areas.	Operates a Training Academy and 17 residential centers (are below) with 29 satellites, which are extensions of a base center. Corpsmembers receive minimum wage, and can qualify for a 10% performance-based raise after 4 months. Those who complete one year and meet eligibility requirements receive a $400 bonus and an $800 scholarship for educational expenses. Several evenings a week are spent in education, career development, and conservation awareness activities.

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CENTERS OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS

Program	Comments/Special Features
Academy Ernie Flores, Academy Superintendent P.O. Box 5207 San Luis Obispo, CA 93403 805/549-3470	Provides 13-day training to 160 new corpsmembers per session. Corpsmembers receive training in safe tool usage, first aid, water safety, basic fire fighting, flood control, and other skills. Operates monthly Certified Leadership Program for second-year corpsmembers.
Bay Area Center Joan Bennett, District Director 2600 Moraga Way San Pablo, CA 94806 415/223-3251	Provides general public service conservation work to the San Francisco Bay Area. Corpsmembers: 96 Satellites: Oakland, San Mateo
Butte Fire Center Steve Kroeger, District Director 6640 Steffler Road Magalia, CA 95954 916/873-0330	Specializes in fire protection in Butte, Plumas and Tehama Counties. Includes a 17-acre nursery where more than one million trees are raised, harvested, and shipped each year. Corpsmembers: 86 Satellites: Chico, Oroville
Camarillo Center Nacho Pina, District Director Box A CCC Camarillo State Hospital Camarillo, CA 93010 805/484-4343	Provides general public service conservation work in Santa Barbara, Ventura and surrounding areas. Corpsmembers: 97 Satellite: Oxnard
Central Coast Service District Larry Hand, District Director P.O. Box 1586 San Luis Obispo, CA 93406 805/549-3361	Provides general public service conservation work throughout central coast. Operates a year-round Firefighter Internship with USFS. Oversees International Work Exchange Program (IWEP) for the CCC. Corpsmembers: 90 Satellite: Santa Maria
Del Norte Center Ed Miller, District Director 1680 F.J. Murphy Memorial Drive Klamath, CA 95548 707/482-2941	Provides general public conservation work on the North Coast, especially in fisheries restoration. Oversees the CCC Backcountry Trails program, which sends 75 corpsmembers to Yosemite and other wilderness locations for six months of trail construction and meadow reforestation. Corpsmembers: 104
Delta Center John Banuelos, District Director 1202 North American Street Stockton, CA 95202 209/948-7110	Work includes general public service conservation and flood fighting. Oversees an additional 54 corpsmembers as part of the CCC Helitack program for air attack of forest fires in 8 locations throughout the state. Corpsmembers: 128 Satellites: Calaveras, Los Banos, Madera, Sacramento
Humboldt Fire Center Steve Ogliaro, District Director 1660 Newburg Rd Fortuna, CA 95540 707/946-2362	Specializes in fire protection on California North Coast. Oversees the Salmon Restoration Project which restores habitat for salmon and steelhead trout. Corpsmembers: 117 Satellites: Eureka, Forest Glen, Leggett
Inland Empire Service District Ardess Lilly, District Director P.O. Box 601 Fulton, CA 92369 714/862-3680	Provides general public service conservation work in the counties of San Bernardino, Inyo, and Mono and desert areas. Corpsmembers: 89 Satellite: San Bernardino

Program	Comments/Special Features
Mendocino Center Bill Eagland, District Director 2600 East Side Road Ukiah, CA 95482 707/463-2022	Provides public service conservation work, and operates the Napa Native Plant Nursery, which propagates more than 200,000 plants each year for distribution throughout the state. Corpsmembers: 78 Satellites: Napa, Russian Gulch, Sonoma
Placer Energy Center David Boyd, District Director 3230 Christian Valley Road Auburn, CA 95603 916/823-4902	Oversees the CCC's Energy program, in which corpsmembers monitor energy use, install energy saving devices in office buildings and low-income homes throughout the state. Corpsmembers: 112 Satellite: Greenwood
Pomona Center Joel Neil, District Director 3330 West Pomona Blvd. Pomona, CA 91768 714/594-4206	Provides general public service conservation work in parts of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, and Riverside counties. Corpsmembers: 101 Satellite: Coachella
San Diego Service District Benny Carrea, District Director Route 12, Box 640 Escondido, CA 92056 619/741-2981	Provides general public service conservation work in San Diego and neighboring counties. Corpsmembers: 108 Satellites: Downtown San Diego
San Pedro Center Walt Hughes, District Director P.O. Box 5348 San Pedro, CA 90733 213/831-0185	Provides general public service conservation work in parts of Los Angeles County. Corpsmembers: 118 Satellites: Los Angeles, Watts
Santa Clara Service District Joe Griffin, District Director P.O. Box 4128 Santa Clara, CA 95054 408/277-1150	Provides general public service conservation work. Corpsmembers: 106 Satellites: Hollister, Monterey Bay, Santa Cruz
Sequoia Center Betty Harris, District Director 1400 South Hillcrest Street Porterville, CA 93257 209/782-2912	Provides general public service conservation work in the mid-state area. Corpsmembers: 102 Satellites: Fresno, Bakersfield
Siskiyou Center Tom Buckner, District Director P.O. Box 645 Montague, CA 96064 916/459-3862	Provides general public service conservation work in the north part of the state. Corpsmembers: 90 Satellite: Redding
Tahoe Sierra Service District Clark Enoch, District Director P.O. Box 8399 South Lake Tahoe, CA 95731 916/577-1061	Provides general public service conservation work in the Tahoe Basin and Northern Sierra part of the state. Corpsmembers: 70

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YEAR-ROUND CORPS: State and Provincial Programs *(continued)*

Program	Annual Budget	Ages/# of Participants	Funding Sources	Administration/Work Sponsors	Comments/Special Features
Environment Youth Corps of British Columbia Bob Williams, Acting Manager Ministry of Environment, Parliament Building Victoria, British Columbia, Canada V8V 1X5 604/387-9753 604/356-7297 Fax	$11 million	Ages 16-24 # 1,000 +	Provincial Government of B.C. with contributions from Ministry of Environment, ministry of Social Services & Housing, and Ministry of Provincial Secretary	Administered by the Provincial Ministry of Environment and operated under contract by non-profit groups, who act as partners and undertake all aspects of crew management, hiring, day to day operations, etc. Government agencies, local governments, municipalities, community groups, non-profit organizations can request crews	Operates province-wide; crews generally consist of 5 corpsmembers and one supervisor. 80% of the time is devoted to training. Corpsmembers can join for 8-24 weeks. Operates an environmental education component in schools, museums, community centers, shopping malls, which is delivered by young people - teaches environmental awareness to young people by young people
Florida Conservation Corps Frank Phelan, Director Eckerd Family Youth Alternatives, Inc. 800 N. Starcrest Drive P.O. Box 7450 Clearwater, FL 34618-7450 813/461-2990 813/442-5911 Fax	$900,000	Ages 18-23 # 40	State appropriation, fees-for-services, Department of Education	Corps Centers are managed by the Florida Conservation Corps, a Division of Eckerd Family Youth Alternatives, Inc.	Operates one residential and one urban center. All corps training is conducted at the Christmas, FL site.
Florida Youth Conservation Corps 431 N. Nicolas Avenue Christmas, FL 32709 407/568-0236	$960,000	Ages 18-21 # 60	State appropriation, fees-for-services, Department of Education	Operates on contract with the Office of Urban Conservation, Dept. of Natural Resources	Residential program. Training site with camp area and ropes course.
Ft. Lauderdale Conservation Corps Frank Phelan, Center Director 701 NW 18th Avenue Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33311 305/767-9147	$735,000	Ages 18-23 # 30	CETA grant, fees for services, city, state and federal monies	Operates on contract with the City of Ft. Lauderdale. Work performed for the City of Ft. Lauderdale and federal, state, and county governments	Upon completion of one year, all corpsmembers are eligible for either a full two year scholarship (tuition & books) at Broward Community College or a law enforcement training scholarship with the City of Ft. Lauderdale
Iowa Conservation Corps* JoAnn Calhoun Department of Economic Development 200 E. Grand Avenue Des Moines, IA 50309 515/242-4784 515/281-7276 Fax	$1.8 million (includes local match at 35% or more)	Ages 14-24 # 1,500	State appropriation and local match	Administered by Iowa Department of Economic Development. Funds are subgranted to school districts, conservation boards and community groups for community improvement, human service and conservation projects.	Operates four components: a Young Adult Conservation Corps for 18-24 year olds, a summer conservation program for 15-18 year olds, an In-School Service Corps in which disadvantaged 18-21 year old students work 10 hours/week after school on service projects, and the Iowa Corps in which youth can receive future college tuition payments for volunteer service.
Michigan Civilian Conservation Corps Frank Rozsock, Jr. Department of Natural Resources P.O. Box 30028 Lansing, MI 48909 517/373-1168 517/373-1012 Fax	$5.2 million	Ages 18-25 # 430	State appropriation	Administered by the Department of Natural Resources. Operates primarily on public land	Corpsmembers must receive Aid to Families With Dependent Children (AFDC) or general assistance when hired. 80-100 corpsmembers are in 3 residential camps.
Michigan Neighborhood Corps Richard Ballard, Project Director Neighborhood Builders Alliance P.O. Box 30242 Lansing, MI 48909 517/373-7191 517/373-6347 Fax	$6.5 million	Ages 18-20 + # 675	State appropriation	Administered by the Neighborhood Builders Alliance, a unit of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority. Operates through local government or community based organizations in Detroit, Muskegon, Battle Creek, Pontiac, Flint and Lansing.	Corpsmembers must be economically disadvantaged, and work with local community groups on neighborhood improvement projects, usually in their own neighborhoods.
Minnesota Conservation Corps* Larry Emmer, Director Minnesota Department of Natural Resources 500 Lafayette Road St. Paul, MN 55155-4004 612/296-5042 612/296-5500 Fax	$1.3 million	Ages 16-26 # 120	State appropriation	Administered by the Department of Natural Resources. Operates on state-owned and county lands.	Operates summer residential youth corps for 80 participants including 20 hearing impaired youth. Majority of FTE is allocated to young adult corps.

YEAR-ROUND CORPS: State and Provincial Programs *(continued)*

Program	Annual Budget	Ages/# of Participants	Funding Sources	Administra	v/Work Sponsors	Comments/Special Features
New Hampshire Conservation Corps*	$225,000	Ages 15-19	New Hampshire Charitable	Administered	the Student Conservation	Work includes trail and bridge construction and
Bob Sandoe, Director		# 40	Fund, JTPA (NH Job Training	Association and works with the New Hampshire		maintenance, erosion control, and revegetation.
P.O. Box 550			Council), and corporate &	Division of Parks & Recreation. Works on public		Runs a non-residential, in-school year-round
Charlestown, NH 03603			individual gifts	and utility owned lands.		program and a 7 week residential program.
603-826-4301						
603-826-7753 Fax						
New Jersey Youth Corps	$1.3 million	Ages 16-25	State appropriation, Dept. of	Jointly administered by Dept. of Community		Non-residential program for "out-of-
Henry Plotkin, Administrator		# 1,200	Community Affairs - $2	Affairs and Dept. of Education with 15 corps sites		school" youth emphasizing the completion
Box 362 / New Jersey Department of Community			million, Dept. of Education –	in urban centers throughout NJ. Human service &		of secondary education, development of
Affairs			$2.37 million	physical improvement projects done for local		work maturity skills and career goals, and
101 S. Broad Street CN-814				social service and community development		post program placement in continuing
Trenton, NJ 08625				organizations.		education, either academic or vocational.
609-292-0807						
609-984-0386 Fax						

YEAR-ROUND CORPS: State and Provincial Programs *(continued)*

Program	Annual Budget	Ages/# of Participants	Funding Sources	Administration/Work Sponsors	Comments/Special Features
Ohio Civilian Conservation Corps Jeff Wilson, Acting Chief Ohio Division of Civilian Conservation 1855 Fountain Square, Bldg. H-1 Columbus, OH 43224 614/265-6423 614/447-8005 Fax	$1.9 million	Ages: 18-24 # 250	State appropriation	Administered by the Division of Civilian Conservation in the Department of Natural Resources. Operates on public lands. Works for state, county and local governments.	Voluntary GED and remedial education programs offered to corpsmembers, primarily at the residential camps. Operates three residential and eight non-residential camps.
Ontario Environmental Youth Corps Linda Kossar, Coordinator 40 St. Clair Avenue, West Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4V 1M2 416/323-5668	$10.9 million	Ages: 15-24, 29 if disabled # 3,000	Provincial Government	Administered by 5 Provincial Ministries. Each individual ministry sponsors Environmental/Resource Management/Conservation projects submitted by organizations such as: Conservation Authorities, Native Band Councils, Municipalities, Universities/Colleges, Public Interest & Advocacy Groups.	Priority given to participants entering into Employment Equity target groups such as: women, visible minorities, natives, francophones, disabled persons and social assistance recipients.
Pennsylvania Conservation Corps Don Mathis, Director Dept. of Labor & Industry 7th & Forester Sts., Rm 1304 Harrisburg, PA 17120 717/783-6385 717/783-5225 Fax	$6 million	Ages: 18-25 # 500	State appropriation	Administered by the Department of Labor and Industry. Operates on public land or private land with documented public benefit. State agencies and local government can submit project proposals to the DLI.	Preference in hiring is given to economically disadvantaged youth. Corpsmembers receive on-the-job training, literacy training and opportunities to earn a GED.
Washington Conservation Corps Linda Bradford, Chair Coordinating Council Dept. of Ecology Headquarters, PV-11 Olympia, WA 98504 206/439-6131	$2.35 million	Ages: 18-25 # 475	State appropriation and fees-for-services	Administered in six state conservation agencies. Operates on public lands assisting the states resource conservation agencies in carrying out their legislative mandate.	Provides on-the-job training, job search, career development and scholastic assistance to corpsmembers.
Washington Service Corps William Basl, Director 600 Woodview Dr., SE, KG-11 Olympia, WA 98504 206/438-4072 206/438-3174 Fax	$1.1 million (plus $280,000 cash contributions from sponsoring agencies)	Ages: 18-25 # 300	State appropriation	Administered by the Department of Employment Security.	Works on projects to meet unmet community needs such as serving people with disabilities, promoting tourism, assisting refugees, stimulating economic development and assisting the elderly.
Washington State Parks Youth Development and Conservation Corps Don Brosey, Manager, Youth Programs 7150 Cleanwater Lane, KY-11 Olympia, WA 98504-5711 206/753-5775	$331,000 plus contract fees	Ages: 14-21 state funding – # 120 contracts – # 20-50	State appropriation and fees-for-services	Administered by the WA State Parks & Recreation Commission. Operates in State Parks, and on other recreational lands open to the public.	Washington State Parks provides funding to operate two year-round residential camps. Contracts with other government entities to leverage additional funding.
Wisconsin Conservation Corps Topf Wells, Executive Director 30 W. Mifflin – #406 Madison, WI 53703-2568 608/266-7750 608/266-7164 Fax	$4.3 million	Ages: 18-25 # 350	State appropriation	Administered by a governor-appointed citizen policy board as an independent state agency attached to the Department of Administration for fiscal and budgetary purposes. Operates on public land and private land with public access or where significant public benefits will result.	Public and non-profit agencies submit proposals to receive corps services. Corpsmembers who complete a year receive a $500 bonus or $1,000 scholarship.

YEAR ROUND CORPS

Local and Regional Programs

Program	Annual Budget	Ages/# of Participants	Funding Sources	Administration/Work Sponsors	Comments/Special Features
Albany Service Corps Mel Campos, Executive Director 80 Central Avenue Albany, NY 12206 518/434-2714 518/434-5358 Fax	$627,000	Ages: 18-24 #: 90	UCEP, City of Albany, State of New York, JTPA, fees-for-services	Administered by the City of Albany Department of Human Resources	Corpsmembers participate in a 5-day residential training camp before entering the program. Work is split evenly between human service and physical projects. In addition to work projects, 10 hours/week is spent on education.
A-Team 120 N. Langley Road - Suite 200 Glen Burnie, MD 21060 301/222-6675	$200,000 240,000	Ages: 16-24 #: 25	JTPA and Anne Arundel County Office of Community Development (CDBG)	Administered by the Anne Arundel County Office of Manpower. Provides services for community and non-profit organizations and federal, county and city government agencies.	Three-month program for low income youth with focus on getting participants into construction trades. Provides classroom and on-the-job skills training.
Banana Kelly Community Improvement Association Geta Ottenfeld, Executive Director 965 Longwood Avenue Bronx, NY 10459 212/328-1064	$6 million	Ages: 16-24 #: 120	City, state, federal, NYC Housing, NYC DOE, private, corporate and foundation grants	Administered as a non-profit organization.	Targetted for unemployed high school drop-outs. 50% academic/50% paid on-site construction training. Comprehensive services include counseling and leadership development.
Chicago Youth Conservation Corps Rhonda Present, Program Director 16 N. Michigan Avenue, #608 Chicago, IL 60603 312/580-1911	$300,000	Ages: 18-21 #: 80	JTPA, private contributions, Chicago Park District	Administered by the YMCA of metropolitan Chicago. Crews work on Park District projects.	Eighteen week program with focus on academic skills and on-the-job training. Job placement upon completion.
City Volunteer Corps Tom Schmoegelow, Executive Director *National Service Corporation 830 Broadway New York, NY 10003 212/475-6444 212/475-9457 Fax	$5.8 million	Ages: 16-20 #: 500	City of New York with some private funding	Administered as a private, non-profit organization. Work sponsors are government agencies and non-profit organizations.	CVs receive $100 a week for expenses and qualify for $2,500 in cash or a $5,000 scholarship after one year of service. Includes an education component. CVC also operates an in-school program for 16-20 year olds who work full-time during the summer and 6 hours a week during the school year. CVC participated in the Mayor's anti-crime plan delivering public safety & youth support to troubled neighborhoods.
City Year Alan Khazei/Michael Brown, Co-Directors City Year, Inc. 11 Hillcrest Street Boston, MA 02210 617/451-1699 617/695-0662 Fax	$1.5 million	Ages: 17-22 #: 70	Corporate and individual philanthropy and foundation grants	Administered as a private, non-profit organization, working with government agencies and other non-profits on a variety of human and physical service projects.	Corpsmembers receive a stipend and an educational opportunity scholarship. The program operates a 4-day work week with a fifth day for educational programming. City Year unites youth from a variety of backgrounds.
Conservation Corps of Long Beach Theresa Marino, Executive Director 801 Federation Drive Long Beach, CA 90804 213/433-1790 213/434-5670 Fax	$983,000	Ages: 18-23 #: 50	State of California Conservation Corps, Department of Conservation Bottle Bill, City of Long Beach Human Services Funds, private, foundation and corporate grants, fees-for-services	Administered as a non-profit organization. Work is done primarily for the City of Long Beach in water recreation areas, parklands and city facilities.	Operates a 4-day work week with a fifth education day. The corps is housed in 2 historic buildings which they refurbished. The headquarters is in a boat house used in the 1932 olympics, built with WPA monies during the Roosevelt era. They hope to add a summer program in 1991.
Coromandel Conservation Corps Paul Kayes P.O. Box 160 Whitianga, New Zealand (0643) 65461	$120,000	Ages: 16-23 #: 240	New Zealand Conservation Corps (which is funded by the Ministry for Youth Affairs)	Sponsored by the Bay of Plenty Polytechnic, a non-profit educational institution. Projects are done for the Department of Conservation, Greenpeace, NZ Forest & Bird Society and small landowners.	Corpsmembers are trained in scuba diving to enable them to do surveying for marine reserve proposals in NZ. This is a fully residential program and corpsmembers often work on individual assignments at night.

YEAR ROUND CORPS: Local and Regional Programs *(continued)*

Program	Annual Budget	Ages/# of Participants	Funding Sources	Administration/Work Sponsors	Comments/Special Features
Dutchess County Youth Resource Development Corporation* John Boggs, Executive Director 90 Delafield Street Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 914/473-5060	$414,000	Ages: 16-21 #: 140	JTPA, New York State Department of Labor and some fees & in-kind support for supplies and uniforms	Administered by the Youth Resource Development Corporation, a private non-profit organization. Crews work on projects for county and state parks, public and community agencies.	Employs economically disadvantaged, high school drop-outs. Operates a 5-day week with a half day of school and half day of work. Work and classroom components are competency-based.
Durham Service Corps Ann Baker, Executive Director P.O. Box 3696 Durham, NC 27702 919/683-6602	$701,000	Ages: 18-23 #: 24	UCEP, private foundations, corporations, city & county operational funding, United Way, fees-for-services	Administered as a non-profit organization. Works for the City and County of Durham, neighborhood non-profits, seeking contracts with Research Triangle Foundation, Duke University and NC Central University.	The first two crews of 10-12 corpsmembers came on board in March 1991 and one crew will be added every quarter for the next two years. Corps offers incentives and promotions based on attendance, leadership, and longevity — a $250 cash award at the end of 6 months, a $1,500 education scholarship voucher or $750 cash bonus at one year.
East Baton Rouge Urban Corps Sharon Armstrong, Director 6523 Plank Road Baton Rouge, LA 70805 504/358-4609 504/356-7868 Fax	$302,000	Ages: 18-23 #: 45	JTPA	Administered as a non-profit organization.	The program offers 4 hours of work and 3 hours of classroom training each day.
East Bay Conservation Corps* Joanna Lennon, Executive Director 1021 3rd Street Oakland, CA 94607 415/891-3900 415/272-9001 Fax	$4.4 million	Ages: 18-23 #: 160 yr.-rnd. Ages: 15-21 #: 70 summer Ages: 12-14 #: 250 summer #: 150 yr.-rnd	Fees-for-services, state and local public agency funds, foundation and Department of Conservation grants, JTPA and corporate contributions	Administered as a private, non-profit corporation. Contracts for work with federal, state and local agencies, and community-based non-profit organizations.	Operates a 5-day work week with a fifth unpaid, mandatory education day. Corpsmembers use a computer assisted learning center. Operates a public/non-profit agency intern program, a large recycling, litter abatement program, and an after-school/Saturday program for middle school and high school students.
Greater Atlanta Conservation Corps Karan Smith, Executive Director 2340 Georgia Avenue - Suite 206 Atlanta, GA 30312 404/522-4222	$400,000	Ages: 16-25 #: 20-36	Public agency funds, foundation grants, corporate contributions and fees-for-services	Administered as a non-profit corporation with a board of directors co-chaired by the Chairman of Fulton County. Contracts for work on public lands and for non-profit organizations.	Operates a 4-day work week with a fifth unpaid day of basic continuing education, career development and life-coping skills.
Greater Jackson Youth Service Corps Alfred Martin, Director 241 N. Farish Street Jackson, MS 39202 601/353-2311	$300,000	Ages: 16-21 #: 40	JTPA, CHLR, private grants	Operates as a non-profit organization doing civic work and work for other non-profits.	Each day corpsmembers receive 3 hours of education in the RAP (Reaching for your Actual Potential) program.
Greater Miami Service Corps Barbara Jordan, Executive Director 190 NW First Street - Room 230 Miami, FL 33128 305/347-4641 305/372-8743 Fax	$824,000	Ages: 18-23 #: 50	UCEP, local government, JTPA, CHR, Private Industry Council, fees-for-services	Administered by Community Action Agency until the program receives non-profit status.	The first paid corpsmembers came on board October 1, 1990 after a one week residential training program. In addition to education programs during the work week, corpsmembers may utilize a tutorial program to prepare for their GED at Florida International University to take college courses through a scholarship program at Miami Dade Community College.
Kansas City Urban Youth Corps Mike Hughes, Director 1720 Pasco - Suite A Kansas City, MO 64108 816/471-2330 Ext 285	$729,056	Ages: 18-23 #: 20	City, State and County fees-for-services, corporate foundation, JTAP and JTPA for start-up and administrative costs	Operates as a non-profit partnership between business, government, education and the Full Employment Council. Works on projects for city, state, county and community sponsors in human services, community services, and fee-for-service areas.	Operates a 4-day work week with a fifth education day. Graduates either receive college scholarships, enter into apprentice training with labor unions, move into entry level jobs with public employer municipal organizations, or find private sector employment.

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YEAR ROUND CORPS: Local and Regional Programs *(continued)*

Program	Annual Budget	Ages/# of Participants	Funding Sources	Administration/Work Sponsors	Comments/Special Features
Los Angeles Conservation Corps* Martha Diegenbrack P.O. Box 15868 Los Angeles, CA 90015 213/749-3601 213/749-3331 Fax	$4.2 million	Ages: 18-23 # 120 Ages: 12-15 # 420	State and public agencies fees for services, foundations and corporate contributions, Bottle Bill, City of Los Angeles	Administered as a non-profit organization. Operates on public lands and with non-profit organizations.	Operates a 6-day work corps program of learning, work and physical fitness. Also operates summer and Saturday program for 120 Jr. High School students, with integrated educational and experiential components, to clean up the city.
Marin Conservation Corps* Donald Nemeth, Director Box 89 San Rafael, CA 94915 415/454-8554 415/454-8395 Fax	$1.2 million	Ages: 18-26 # 50	Fees for services, foundation grants	Administered as a private, non-profit organization. Contracts for work with federal, state and local agencies.	Operates a 6-day work week with a $50 stipend members/ education day.
McKeesport Youth Service Corps Michael Rashovich, Project Director 523 Sinclair Street McKeesport, PA 15132 412/672-1124 412/664-9312 Fax	$300,000	Ages: 17-23 # 45	State appropriation, JTPA, private foundations	Administered by the McKeesport YMCA, on contract through Allegheny County.	Corpsmembers receive bonuses for attendance and length of service.
Montgomery County Conservation and Service Corps* Doug Appleman, Director 600 E. Gude Drive Rockville, MD 20850 301/294-8720 301/309-1828 Fax	$1.1 million	Ages: 16-23 # 50	County appropriation, JTPA, fees for services, private donations and grants	Administered by Montgomery College. Operates on public lands in the county.	The Service Corps has individual plot permits and crew projects. Corpsmembers earn vouchers.

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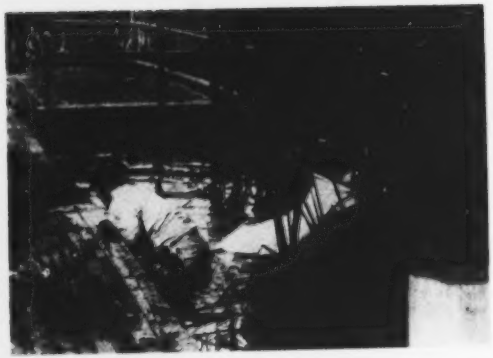
YEAR ROUND CORPS: Local and Regional Programs *(continued)*

Program	Annual Budget	Ages/# of Participants	Funding Sources	Administration/Work Sponsors	Comments/Special Features
Natural Resources & Employment Program Bruce Davis, Director 323 Sprecklen Drive - Suite C Aptos, CA 95003 408/662-3616	$150,000	Ages: 18 and up #: 10	JTPA, fees-for-services, state and public agencies	Administered as a project of the Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, Inc., a private, non-profit corporation. Contracts for work on private and public lands.	This 6-month program is designed to get low-income persons back into the work force. Participants are trained in the natural resources/landscaping fields.
Philadelphia Ranger Corps Peter Fogleman, Executive Director Ohio House - Fairmount Park Belmont Ave. at States Drive Philadelphia, PA 19131 215/581-5111 215/877-1264 Fax	$4.2 million	Ages: 17-24 #: 100 (70 "candidates" in training, 30 graduate "rangers")	Foundation grants, private contributions, public support, fees-for-services	Operates as a non-profit career development and community service organization in partnership with several public & private agencies. Provides visitor services in Philadelphia's park system and other public spaces, environmental education programs in the city's public schools, and corpsmember-volunteer service to several community programs.	Trainee-corpsmembers (candidates) participate in a two-year program that includes four semesters of subsidized full-time study at Temple University, 800 hours of classroom training provided by the Corps, and 2,300 hours of on-the-job experience in the park. Graduate-corpsmembers (rangers) are certified as professional urban park rangers, offered full-time employment by the Corps and encouraged to complete their college education on their own.
Philadelphia Youth Service Corps Anthony Fairbanks, Executive Director 33 South Third Street Philadelphia, PA 19106 215/238-5200 215/238-5217 Fax	$1.1 million	Ages: 17-22 #: 38	Private Industry Council, foundations, private sector support	Administered as a non-profit corporation.	Corpsmembers participate in 2 hours of mandatory education per day.
Pittsburgh City Corps William Thompkins, Program Director 3208 Smallman Street Pittsburgh, PA 15201 412/281-7557 412/642-2310 Fax	$600,000	Ages: 17-21 #: 60	State and city appropriations and corporate contributions, private foundations	Administered as a non-profit organization providing services to government entities and non-profit organizations including the City of Pittsburgh, the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, and the Salvation Army.	Corpsmembers spend 32 hours per week on work projects in addition to classroom work. Monetary incentives offered for perfect attendance.
Sacramento Local Conservation Corps Pauline Marsette, Executive Director 8460 Belvedere Ave. #7 Sacramento, CA 95826 916/386-8394	$1.5 million	Ages: 18-23 #: 60-70	State appropriations, grants, 35% fees-for-services, donations	Administered as a private, non-profit corporation with all work done for government entities or other non-profit organizations.	Operates a 4-day work week with a fifth unpaid education day.
San Francisco Conservation Corps* Ann Cochran, Acting Director Fort Mason, Bldg. 111 San Francisco, CA 94123 415/928-7322 415/928-7330 Fax	$3.1 million	Ages: 18-23 #: 120	Government projects, philanthropy, fees-for-services	Administered as a private, non-profit organization. Contracts for work on public land.	Operates a 4-day work week with a fifth unpaid, mandatory education day, plus a summer and in-school program.
San Jose Conservation Corps Bob Heuneman, Director 2650A Senter Road San Jose, CA 95111 408/998-5684	$1.5 million	Ages: 18-23 #: 60-80	Foundation grants, the California Conservation Corps, Dept. of Conservation and fees-for-services	Administered as a non-profit corporation by a board of directors.	Operates a 4-day work week with a fifth unpaid education day using a computer assisted learning center.
Seattle Conservation Corps Cheryl Oeka, Director 1425 Elliott Ave. W. Seattle, WA 98119 206/684-0190	$950,000	Ages: 18 and up #: 45	Fees for services, and Community Development Block Grants	Contracts with the Department of Administrative Services, Parks, and Department of Construction and Land Use: King County, METRO, Washington State.	Specifically designed to serve homeless adults. Operates a program teaching technical skills to the corpsmembers, who earn $7.50/hr.
Smokey House Lynn Bourdeaux, General Manager R.D. #1Box 292 Danby, VT 05739 802/293-5121	$200,000	Ages: 14-19 #: 24-36	School tuitions, philanthropy and JTPA	Administered by a non-profit organization.	Operates natural resource demonstration project and worksite training program for in-school, disadvantaged Southwestern Vermont youth.



YEAR ROUND CORPS: Local and Regional Programs (continued)

Program	Annual Budget	Ages/# of Participants	Funding Sources	Administration/Work Sponsors	Comments/Special Features
SERF, Inc.[7] Terry Roller, Director of Youth Programs P.O. Box 1328 - Lincoln Street Williamsport, PA 17703-1328 717/327-5543 717/322-2197 Fax	$336,000	Ages: 16-21 18, 24 other PCC grants #: 42 corps members at a time (approx. 80 per year)	JTPA, Department of Community Affairs, Pennsylvania Conservation Corps/Dept. of Labor	Operates as a private non-profit community action agency. Works on public lands and for other non-profits.	Full-time corpsmembers receive 4 hrs. per week of specialized, individualized computer enhanced educational training; summer corpsmembers receive remedial work/study training and all receive basic GED training as needed. Originally used as a team building tool, the corps now runs a 5 day Wilderness Challenge training program for the PA Dept. of Labor for other summer youth corps throughout the state.
Tulare County Conservation Corps Carolyn Rose, Director 120 N. M Street Tulare, CA 93274 209/685-0839	$300,000	Ages: 18-23 #: 22	State appropriations, fee-for-services, and corporate grants	TCCC is a project of Community Service and Employment Training (C-SET), a non-profit corporation that provides employment, training and other services to low-income people in Tulare County.	Operates a 4-day work week with a fifth unpaid education day. Education program is a cooperative project of TCCC, Tulare Adult School, and 70001 CEP project.
Urban Conservation Corps of the Palm Beaches[8] Linda Morgan, Program Manager 331 Florida Avenue West Palm Beach, FL 33401 407/655-8280	$250,000	Ages: 16-21 #: 80	JTPA, fees for services	Operates as a non-profit organization. Work is confined to non-profits in the Palm Beach County area only.	Operates a 4-day work week with a fifth unpaid education day.
Urban Corps of San Diego Sam Duran, Executive Director 1864 National Avenue San Diego, CA 92113 619/235-0137 619/232-3467 Fax	$300,000	Ages: 18-23 #: 50	California Conservation Corps grant, private donations, fees for services, Dept. of Conservation Division of Recycling Bottle Bill monies, private foundation grants.	Operates as a private non-profit corporation. Work projects are performed on a fee-for-service basis or as a community volunteer effort for any public agency or other non-profit organization.	The corps is very involved in recycling and community volunteer efforts to improve the environment and waste management.

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YEAR ROUND CORPS: Local and Regional Programs *(continued)*

Program	Annual Budget	Ages/# of Participants	Funding Sources	Administration/Work Sponsors	Comments/Special Features
Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Youth Service Corps Karl Mewiler, Coordinator P.O. Box 2511 Winston-Salem, NC 27102 919/727-8004 919/727-2878 Fax	$650,000	Ages: 18-23 #: 50	Local foundations, corporations and private sector donations	Operates as a non-profit organization. Administered by the Winston-Salem Work Force Development Office.	The 40-hour work week consists of 26 hours of community service, 6 hours of classroom, 4 hours of community meetings and 4 hours of physical training.
YouthBuild Boston Jackie Gells, Executive Director c/o First Church 10 Putnam Street Roxbury, MA 02119 617/445-6882	$500,000	Ages: 17-24 #: 28	CDGB, city linkage funds, Boston Community Schools, foundation grants	Administered as a non-profit organization working with other non-profits, private contractors and developers.	Targetted for unemployed high school drop-outs. 50% academic / 50% paid on-site construction training. Comprehensive services include counseling and leadership development.
Youth Action Program, Inc. Sonia Bu, Executive Director 1280 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10029 212/860-8170	$1.5 million	Ages: 17-24 #: 60	City, state, NYC Department of Employment, private funding	Administered as a non-profit organization.	Targetted for unemployed high school drop-outs. 50% academic / 50% paid on-site construction training. Comprehensive services include counseling and leadership development. This YouthBuild model is being replicated at other sites across the country.
Youth Energy Corps Steven Reese, President Corporation for Youth Energy Corps 760 E. 160th Street Bronx, NY 10456 212/402-3300	$672,351	Ages: 16-20 #: 100	Funded by foundations, fees for services, government contracts and grants	Administered by the Corporation for Youth Energy Corps. Sponsored by the Argus Community, a community-based organization.	Work/training program for disadvantaged youth and high school drop-outs. Provides basic weatherization for low-income housing. Provides GED instruction.

[1] These programs add more corpsmembers during the summer months, typically using Title II-(B) Job Training Partnership Act funds or state summer employment resources.

State and Provincial Programs

Program	Annual Budget	Ages/# of Participants	Funding Sources	Administration/Work Sponsors	Comments/Special Features
Alaska Conservation Corps John Wiles, Deputy Director Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation DNR — 3601 C Street - Box 107001 Anchorage, AK 99510 907/762-2603	$209,600	Ages: 18-24 #: 40	General Fund and JTPA	Park area offices administer the program. State and local government agencies sponsor work projects.	Corpsmembers work for park area offices in this non-residential program.
Colorado Youth Corps Peter Tierney, Director Jeffco Employment & Training Services 9000 Jefferson County Parkway Golden, CO 80401 303/271-4665	$200,000	Ages: 16-21 #: 85	JTPA, state appropriations, and contributions from 9 Service Delivery Areas	One SDA administers this statewide project. Operates on state and federal land, and conducts projects for local non-profits.	Operates one residential camp with a significant emphasis on multiracial living. Corpsmembers participate in remedial education at local community college. All corpsmembers and staff take part in wilderness experiences. Operates in the summer & fall with work projects located throughout the state with 12 spike crews.
Maine Conservation Corps Ken Spalding, Director State House Station 22 Augusta, ME 04333 207/289-4931	$342,000	Ages: 18 and up #: 163 corpsmembers #: 600 volunteers and interns	$200,000 state appropriation plus state, local, federal and private non-profit sponsors and JTPA	Administered by the Department of Conservation. Operates on public land or private non-profit land operating for the public good.	Operates 8 week job training projects throughout the state, including a small component of residential work camps. Operates SERVE - Maine: a year-round volunteer and intern program.
Maryland Conservation Corps Jonathan Underwood, Director Department of Natural Resources EPWS — Tawes State Office Building B-2 Annapolis, MD 21401 301/974-3771 301/974-5550 Fax	$ 324,000	Ages: 14-21 #: 365	State appropriation, JTPA, and private funding.	Administered by the Department of Natural Resources, Forest Parkland Wildlife Service. Operates on state, county and private lands.	Projects are restricted to those that restore the Chesapeake Bay. Some after-school and weekend crews operate in fall and spring.
Montana Conservation Corps Jeffrey K. Rupp, President 321 East Main - Suite 300 Bozeman, MT 59715 406/587-4486	$ 75,000	Ages: 16-21 #: 30	JTPA, state and local governments, private funding.	Administered as a private non-profit corporation working for a variety of federal, state and local sponsoring agencies.	Organized in the fall of 1989, the program operated three sites (Bozeman, Billings & Kalispell) in 1990.
New York State Conservation Corps Ann Harrison Krasin, Director New York State OPRHP Agency Building 1, Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12238 518/474-0472 518/486-2946 Fax	$1 million	Ages: 14-18 #: 400	State appropriation and 20% local match.	Administered by the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Contracts with local government, state agencies, not-for-profit corporations and Indian nations to do conservation work on public lands.	Operating a summer program in 1991, with plans for eventual year-round programming. Corpsmembers receive training in basic employment skills development and environmental education.
Oregon Youth Conservation Corps Nick Guarriello, Director 875 Union St. NE Salem, OR 97311 503/378-2038 503/378-2958 Fax	$600,000	Ages: 16 and up #: 500	Private funds, Scrapper Bell fund, JTPA and state appropriation.	Administered by the Oregon Employment Division. Direct site supervision provided by state and local natural resource agencies. Weatherization project administered by the Oregon Department of Human Resources.	Operates statewide.
Vermont Youth Conservation Corps Thomas L. Hark, Director Vermont Youth Conservation Corps Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation 103 Main Street Waterbury, VT 05676 802/244-8713 802/244-1481 Fax	$350,000	Ages: 16-23 #: 90	Private sponsors (40%), federal JTPA (55%), and state (5%).	Administered by the Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation in cooperation with the Department of Employment & Training, the State of Vermont and the Citizens Council of Employment & Training. Operates on public facilities.	Expected to become year-round in 1991. (50% residential).

SUMMER AND SEASONAL CORPS

Local and Regional Programs

Program	Annual Budget	Ages/# of Participants	Funding Sources	Administration/Work Sponsors	Comments/Special Features
NY State County Programs					
Cheektowaga Conservation Corps Ellen Fischer, Program Coordinator Cheektowaga Youth Bureau Alexander Community Center 275 Alexander Street Cheektowaga, NY 14211 716/895-1585	$67,900	Ages: 16-18 #: 30-35	Town appropriation	Administered by the town Youth Bureau. Operates on state and local lands.	Supplemental activities include Environmental Education and Job Training components, field trips, guest lecturers and presentations. Operates three crews for nine weeks.
Oswego County Conservation Corps David Warner, Director Oswego County Cooperative Extension Main Street Mexico, NY 13114 315/963-7286	$133,800	Ages: 14-19 #: 90	JTPA, local in-kind, Oswego County Youth Bureau & New York State OPRHP	Administered by the Oswego County Cooperative Extension. Operates on state and local lands.	Operates "World of Work" environmental education program.
St. Lawrence County Conservation Corps Marc Ann Ashley, Executive Director St. Lawrence County Youth Bureau Surrogate Court Building Court & Judson Street Canton, NY 13617 315/379-2377, 9464 315/379-2533 Fax	$96,000	Ages: 14-18 #: 27-40	New York State Conservation Corps, New York State Division for Youth, St. Lawrence County and local in-kind	Jointly administered by the St. Lawrence County Youth Bureau, St. Lawrence County Treasurer, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.	Crews operate on state, county and local lands. Educational component includes presentations by human service organizations, e.g. Sheriff's Juvenile Aid Division, Planned Parenthood.
Suffolk County Conservation Corps Raymond DeFranco, Director of Youth Programs Suffolk County Department of Labor 605 Deerpark Avenue Babylon, NY 11702 516/667-8600 516/667-8652 Fax	$300,000	Ages: 14-21 #: 80	JTPA, local in-kind, New York State Conservation Corps and private foundation grants	Administered by the Suffolk County Department of Labor.	Two crews of nine work eight weeks on conservation projects at federal, state, county and local parks.
Northwest Youth Corps Arthur Pope, Director PO Box 5345 Eugene, OR 97405 503/726-8653	$300,000	Ages: 16-19 #: 240	Fees for services, private foundation grants, corporate contributions	Administered as a private, non-profit organization operating on public and private lands in spring, summer and fall.	Mandatory daily education and job training component. Residential summer programs for high school age youth. Year round program under development.
West Philadelphia Improvement Corps George Brown, Executive Director 3906 Spruce Street Philadelphia, PA 19104 215/222-8680	$1.2 million	Ages: 9-19 #: 800 1200 adults in evening programs	Private and public donations, state and federal government	Coordinated by the West Philadelphia Partnership, a private, non-profit organization.	Year round "after-school" program emphasizes classes in horticulture, landscaping, architecture and housing rehabilitation as extension of summer work projects. All work & education activities are linked to community improvement projects & supervised by teachers.
Urban Conservation Corps Carolyn Angolillo, Program Director The Parks Council 457 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10022 212/838-9810 212/371-6040 Fax	$250,000	Ages: 14-21 #: up to 800	JTPA through the NYC Department of Employment, foundations, corporations and individuals	Administered by The Parks Council, a private non-profit group founded in 1926. Contracts with neighborhood voluntary agencies.	Educational enrichment including employment readiness training, field trips, environmental projects. Youth participants are paid by sponsoring agencies.

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SUMMER AND SEASONAL CORPS: Local and Regional Programs *(continued)*

Program	Annual Budget	Ages/# of Participants	Funding Sources	Administration/Work Sponsors	Comments/Special Features
Youth Volunteer Corps of America (a replication project of Youth Service America) David Battey, Project Director (Kansas City) 816/474-5123 Frank Slobig, Director of Policy & Programs Youth Service America 1319 F Street NW - 9th Floor Washington, DC 20004 202/783-8855 202/347-2685 Fax	$45,000 average 1st year program site	Ages: 12-18 # 100 summer 200-300 school year	Foundation, corporate, individual, United Way and government grants	Programs are sponsored locally by non-profit organizations such as United Way, the Volunteer Center and the YMCA.	The YVCA replication project established by Youth Service America in 1988, recently received a $1 million grant from the Kellogg Foundation for 40 replication sites (including 3 in Michigan). Programs consist of two general components: an intense summer program and short term projects throughout the school year.

YVCA PROGRAMS

Program	Comments/Special Features
Youth Volunteer Corps of Pittsburgh Ann Mason, Project Coordinator 200 Ross Street P.O. Box 735 Pittsburgh, PA 15230 412/261-6010	**Budget:** $48,000 **Ages:** 12-17 45 volunteers Sponsored by United Way of Allegheny County and Southwestern Pennsylvania. Summer 1990: 14 projects including day camps, elderly, handicapped, hunger services, recycling. School yr.: Weekend and one day projects.
Youth Volunteer Corps of Colorado Springs Marge Asay/Barb Vierling, Project Coordinators P.O. Box 7640 Colorado Springs, CO 80933 719/632-3563	**Budget:** $40,000 **Ages:** 14-15 59 volunteers Sponsored by the American Red Cross, Pikes Peak Chapter. Summer 1990: 8 projects including services to homeless, refugees, mentally/physically challenged, and pre-school age constituencies. School yr.: Weekend and Christmas projects.
Youth Volunteer Corps of Spartanburg Joyce Johnston, Project Coordinator P.O. Box 4674 Spartanburg, SC 29304 803/582-7506	**Budget:** $29,340 **Ages:** 13-17 63 volunteers Sponsored by the United Way of the Piedmont. Summer 1990: 9 projects including services at a home for handicapped children, a battered women's shelter, a child welfare center and a housing project day camp. School yr.: Projects conducted on holidays.

Program	Comments/Special Features
Youth Volunteer Corps of Greater Kansas City Maurice Byrd, Project Coordinator 1000 Washington Kansas City, MO 64105 816/474-5112	**Budget:** $164,000 **Ages:** 13-17 150 volunteers Sponsored by the Heart of America United Way. Summer 1990: 16 projects including day camps, homeless shelter, drug education, home weatherizing, service to disabled and handicapped. School yr.: Volunteers serve at a city teen hotline and as legal aides.
Youth Volunteer Corps of Vero Beach Diane Hankle, Project Coordinator P.O. Box 3287 Vero Beach, FL 32961 407/562-9036	**Budget:** $32,000 **Ages:** 13-18 46 volunteers Sponsored by the Vero Beach Family YMCA. Summer 1990: 8 projects including day camps, serving at a nursing home, and a regional park. School yr.: Volunteers will develop a creative playground and serve on Habitat for Humanity projects.
Youth Volunteer Corps of Marquette Joe Zahn, Project Coordinator 427 W. College Avenue Marquette, MI 49855 906/228-9400	**Budget:** $35,000 Sponsored by Marquette Alger Intermediate School District. This program began in January 1991.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Program	
Youth Conservation Corps National Park Service - Francis Gipson 202/343-5418 Fish & Wildlife Service - Bud Oliveira 703/358-2029 Forest Service - Ransom Hughes 703/235-8861	The federal government maintains minimal Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) operations in the National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service. At its height, some 32,000 young people were employed in both federal and state grant Youth Conservation Corps programs with a total appropriation of $660 million. In summer 1990 approximately $5 million was spent by the three agencies to employ some 2,300 young people across the nation. A separate appropriation is no longer available for YCC. Agencies must expend from their own operating budgets for corps programs. At its height, the Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC) program operated at both the federal and state level with a total appropriation of $260 million. Funding for YACC ended in 1981. Current federal programs have not expanded in recent years and momentum for growth has shifted to the state and local level.

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THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SERVICE AND CONSERVATION CORPS (NASCC) took shape at the first national youth conservation and service corps conference in May, 1985. The Association promotes youth corps at the federal, state, regional, county and municipal levels and serves as a forum for identifying policy issues affecting members. It seeks to broaden the national consensus for youth service and provide information and technical assistance to existing and nascent conservation and service corps programs.

The Association continues to broaden its membership and speak as the voice for the growing youth corps movement. The Association sponsors national and regional conferences and workshops, monitors and reports on corps programs, is developing a national data collection system and staff training program, and operates a travel fund to encourage those planning new programs to visit existing operations.

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The National Association of Service and Conservation Corps is grateful to the
Dewitt Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund and the William and Flora Hewlett and Charles S. Mott Foundations
for contributing substantially to our conservation and service corps work.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Thank you very much.
Ms. Rosenberry.

STATEMENT OF MARGARET ROSENBERRY, DIRECTOR, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION, YOUTH SERVICE AMERICA

Ms. ROSENBERRY. Thank you. Thank you, Congressman Kostmayer for having me here today and for your support of the Youth Conservation Corps network.

I would like my statement read into the record in its entirety and I'll just summarize it and make a few points based on things that others have had to say today.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Without objection.

Ms. ROSENBERRY. It's a pleasure to be here also with my successor as Executive Director of the Conservation and Service Corps Association. I was there for several years and, before that, was with the Department of the Interior as the Environmental Education Specialist for the Youth Conservation Corps program.

So I can speak both from the perspective of a federal employee with the program in the 1970s, when it had enthusiastic endorsement by the Administration, and from the non-profit side of things.

I'm now with Youth Service America, and I'm also here with Frank Slobig, my colleague from Youth Service America, who's the Director of Policy and Programs.

YSA was formed in 1986 to promote the ethics of service in the United States. It has worked to develop and sustain a nationwide network of Youth Service programs that include a full-time Conservation Service Corps. And the Conservation Corps part of this is an important component.

I'd like to make several points from what was said earlier.

One, I think Conservation Corps programs have proved themselves. They proved themselves in the 1930s with the Civilian Conservation Corps. They proved themselves again in the 1970s, and they're doing it with the network that Kathleen mentioned across the country right now.

And they have proved it in terms of cost/benefit. That does not include all of the benefits to the young people that accrue and to communities because they don't have young people on the welfare rolls. They've got them out paying taxes and participating in a positive way.

Our colleagues in the Interior Department mentioned that the cost/benefit ratio in just the work accomplishment is now $1.80. When I was with the program in the 1970s, it was $1.21; it's risen. Recent studies of some of the existing local programs and state programs show it to be over a dollar as well, up to $1.75, $1.50 and so on, depending on the estimate.

There's also been some work done recently about the benefits to participants. An organization in Philadelphia called public/private venture has done a survey of the California Conservation Corps.

And what they've found, in addition to the cost/benefit in the work benefit being enough to pay for the program was that minorities and young people from low-income families, with low educational skills, benefited even more than other participants in the program economically in terms of their ability to increase their

earning potential when they left the Corps. I think that says something tremendous about the benefits to participants.

In addition, I'd go back to the dual purpose. I don't think that you can have a Youth Corps unless it does have this dual purpose. It can get important work done and it can develop young people. In fact, they're inextricably linked. You can't have one really without the other.

When we were working with the YCC program with agencies that were operating them for the first time in the 1970s, and we were preparing them for this experience, we told them to put together a list of projects the young people could do over the course of the summer, and then increase that estimate by 50 percent.

Because we found that typically they underestimated what youthful enthusiasm and hard work can do for their programs. And if they didn't overestimate, two-thirds of the way through the Summer, they were out of projects for the young people to accomplish.

There was also a Congressional Research survey that was done in 1986 that showed the impact of Conservation Corps on young people. And there was also a report showing the backlog of work that needed to be done. I would urge you to include those surveys in this hearing record so that you'll have that record.

One point that I would like to make about supporting a renewed appropriation for YCC. And that is that it would allow the federal agencies to become a partner with all the state and local programs.

There isn't enough funding right now, through the National and Community Service Act, or through any of those agencies, to really work with state and local programs and to operate themselves YCC programs on their lands. This would allow that to happen.

I also would like to point out that right now, if you look across the country at just the summer Conservation Corps funding, that's about $10.2 million or 6400 young people that can participate right now.

There are about nine million youth between the ages of 15 and 18 in this country. And we're currently reaching about 6400 in summer programs—not nearly enough.

Also that number of 6400 is about one-third of the young people that now get summer jobs in the District of Columbia alone under the Job Training Partnership Act Summer Youth Employment Program.

The figures that I have in my testimony about the funding level requested by states in their applications to the Commission was $58 million. Since this testimony was written, I've learned that that figure has risen to $71 million.

$71 million has come in from the states alone. Only $22.5 is available for them. And that funding doesn't include any funding given to federal agencies to allow them to participate in this program and have young people working on federal lands.

So, in closing, I just would like to say I think the programs have proven themselves. And I'm very pleased that you're supporting a renewed appropriation for YCC. And thank you for having me here.

[Prepared statement of Ms. Rosenberry follows:]

STATEMENT OF MARGARET ROSENBERRY, DIRECTOR, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION, YOUTH SERVICE AMERICA

Mr. Chairman, I want to thank you for the opportunity to appear before the committee today in support of the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program. I am Margaret Rosenberry, Director of Finance and Administration for Youth Service America, and former Executive Director of the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps. I was also the Environmental Education Specialist for the Youth Conservation Corps in the United States Department of the Interior. I speak today in support of a renewed appropriation for the Youth Conservation Corps and for the young people who currently serve in conservation corps programs across the nation—and the many, many more who would like to serve.

YSA was established in 1986 to promote the ethic of service in America. YSA helps develop and sustain a nationwide network of quality service programs that provide young people of all ages and backgrounds the opportunity to begin a lifelong commitment to civic involvement and community improvement. These service programs range from fulltime youth conservation and service corps to programs for elementary school children tied to the curriculum in their schools.

As you know, the Youth Conservation Corps program was permanently authorized in 1973, as Public Law 93-408. Throughout the late 1970's, YCC operated through the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture and through a state grant program. In 1981, funds were cut for the program. Both the Interior and Agriculture departments were given minimal funds to continue to operate through 1983. After that, a separate appropriation was not made for the program. I am here today in support of a renewed appropriation for YCC.

While the program operated, over 32,000 young people were enrolled each summer in cities and rural areas across the country, performing a wide variety of conservation projects, from tree planting to river clean-up to erosion control. Extensive records were kept on the program and they consistently show that the program more than paid for itself in work accomplishment. In fact, for every dollar spent on YCC, the young people gave back about $1.21 in conservation work. That figure does not include the value of the program to the participants, nor the other benefits to communities and the government in increased productivity and taxes from wages. It is time that we had YCC again.

While it operated, YCC proved itself a highly effective program for both rural and urban areas and for young people of all backgrounds. YCC programs operated in New York City, in Arkansas State Parks, in San Francisco, in countless other state parks, and on many federal land management facilities in the Forest Service, the National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service and others. It was enthusiastically-supported by the natural resource managers and park directors wherever it operated. Young people spent 30 to 40 hours each week on conservation projects and also participated in an environmental education program through which they learned about management of our natural resources and stewardship of the environment. That education and conservation work is just as needed today as it was ten years ago.

The YCC program has a dual mission—to perform conservation work of recognized value in the community and to develop youth—helping them become responsible, contributing adult citizens, understanding their places as citizens in a democracy, understanding their environment and principles of conservation, and learning the skills of leadership. For many of the participants, the YCC experience was the first time in their lives that they have felt they have something to contribute. You cannot imagine what this does for their self-esteem and self-confidence. For many, it marked a turning point in their lives. Some of those young people are now staff members in existing state corps programs. Each year, others call the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps looking for information on staff positions in state programs. We meaningful experience as we provided ten years ago.

With budgets becoming ever and ever tighter, we really cannot afford not to support a program that can accomplish so much. The backlog of resource work in our conservation agencies has grown over the last few years. In 1986, a survey prepared by the Congressional Research Service documented the amount of conservation work that needed to be done. I urge you to include a copy of that report in the permanent record of this hearing. This list was extensive then and has grown steadily. Several states, including Maryland and New Hampshire have had to close some of their park facilities. Trail maintenance and stream improvement work is not being done. Young people can do that work while they spend a productive summer.

When federal funds for YCC were cut, several states continued to operate conservation corps with their own funds. The programs are small and struggling, but a

testimony to the support conservation corps programs have among state officials—they were willing to support the program on their own as best they could. The states of Maryland, Vermont, Colorado, New Hampshire, Maine, Minnesota, and Iowa now operate summer conservation corps. Most of these states are having a more and more difficult time balancing their budgets and yet they still provide some funds for youth corps.

In addition, the National Park Service, the Forest Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service have allocated about $5 million to conservation corps operations from their own funds. This willingness to allocate limited funds to a program when specific appropriations are not available, should be evidence enough of the support the program has. These states and federal agencies need a federal partner again. The states have already stepped forward in supporting conservation corps, federal agencies have continued YCC programs as best they can, and it is time the federal government joined them.

Today, only $10.2 million is spent on conservation corps between federal and state programs, involving only 6400 young people. The figure is less than one third of the young people currently getting summer jobs in the District of Columbia alone under the federal Summer Youth Employment Program. The existing programs can reach only a fraction of the young people who could participate.

The National Association of Service and Conservation Corps works closely with the existing network of youth corps programs to promote the development of new programs and ensure continued high quality operation in all programs. The Association has adopted a set of Recommendations for Quality Program Development which is attached to my testimony. I would call your attention to those recommendations because they outline what we know about the way youth corps programs should be structured to meet the needs of youth participants and the communities they serve. The YCC program meets all of these recommendations.

A recent study of several state conservation corps programs by Public/Private Ventures, a Philadelphia-based employment research and evaluation organization, found that, by even the most conservative measure, the programs return to society at least as much as is spent on them. The study also found that minorities and young people from low-income families or with low educational skills benefited more than other participants in the program economically, in terms of their ability to increase their potential wages after their corps experience. Finally, it established that the work value in and of itself covers the cost of the program, not to mention the social and educational benefits. With results like these, it is simply good public policy to support youth conservation corps.

In addition, the National Park Service, the Forest Service, and Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Reclamation can all use young people productively to meet the backlogs of conservation projects that have been building up over the last few years of tight budget and declining resources.

On a final note, you are aware that Congress approved, and the President signed, legislation in 1990 that provided funds for development of national and community service programs—the National and Community Service Act of 1990 or, Public Law 101-610. This law requires that programs funded under the Act be coordinated with existing youth employment and other programs. Subtitle C of that law will support development of conservation corps for 16 through 25 year olds. State summer conservation corps programs could be funded in conjunction with year-round youth corps under the Act. The law does not provide direct funding for conservation corps on federal lands.

The first-year's applications for those programs have been received by the federal government and the requests from the states alone total $58 million. Only $22.5 million was appropriated. These funds requested are from states only—any funds needed by federal land managing agencies are not included. Clearly, the need exists for more support. It could be easily provided with a new appropriation for YCC. New funding for YCC would build on funding provided for conservation and other youth corps under the National and Community Service Act. Many more young people could be involved and federal land managing agencies could be a partner.

I want to thank Congressman Kostmayer for supporting an appropriation for YCC. I hope the committee will support his commitment and include an appropriation for YCC in this budget. Our resources and our young people need it. Thank you.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR QUALITY PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

NASCC RECOMMENDS THAT ALL CORPS PROGRAMS STRIVE TO MEET THESE STANDARDS:

1. Corps programs carry out conservation and human service projects that: provide skills and have educational value for corpsmembers, have public benefit, serve a public need, and may enhance public access, have lasting value to communities, enhance the image of young people as a resource, are project based, and do not result in displacement of full-time employees, have economic benefit, and are environmentally sound.
2. Corps programs provide opportunities for corpsmembers to improve education, life-coping, leadership and career development skills.
3. Corps programs are open to young people from diverse racial, socio-economic, and educational backgrounds.
4. Corps programs employ crew supervisors who are well-qualified in technical and interpersonal skills; they are essential to high-quality work and youth development.
5. The crew concept is the building block of the corps, and corps offer participants opportunities to work in small groups in which they can develop teamwork, cooperation and communication skills.
6. Corps programs are integral parts of the communities and regions they serve, responding to local needs and strengthened by local resources and support.
7. Corps programs embody certain values: stewardship of the environment, work ethic, respect for one another, community service, citizenship, responsibility, pride of accomplishment, and cooperation.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Thank you very much.

Mr. Jarvis.

STATEMENT OF DESTRY JARVIS, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, STUDENT CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

Mr. JARVIS. Good morning, Mr. Chairman.

I'm Destry Jarvis, Executive Vice President of Student Conservation Association.

We are somewhat like the Youth Conservation Corps, somewhat like the Service and Conservation Corps, and yet different in several respects.

We have a wide variety of programs, both for high school youth, 16 to 19, and for college, young adult and retirees, all the way from 19 to retirement and beyond.

Within each of those ages we have special population programs for hearing impaired, for developmentally delayed, for visually impaired, for wheelchair bound, et cetera.

We serve in partnership with a variety of federal, state and private agencies, primarily the National Park Service. This is our 35th anniversary year of cooperative programs with the Park Service, our 25th anniversary year with the Forest Service and our tenth year with the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management. And three years ago we concluded an agreement with the U.S. Navy for volunteer programs.

We have a training program in which all of our leaders and the leaders of a variety of other Corps are trained in the work skills associated with volunteer program service on the public lands. Our leaders are also led through a training program in everything from advanced first aid to counseling with youth problems from rape and teen pregnancy to alcoholism.

Our programs currently, in 1991, provided 625,000 hours of volunteer service in over 350 locations around the country.

My statement includes a list of items in which I have tried to compare and contrast SCA with the Youth Conservation Corps as it existed in its heyday. I might note, for historical purposes, that the late Senator Henry Jackson modeled his YCC legislation after the SCA program, having visited some of our early programs over a series of years in the mid-1960s in Olympic National Park where we have operated for many, many years.

In looking at some of our similarities with YCC, I've noted some contrast in the way we recruit and the quality and level of sophistication and the supervision we provide, the level of training that our supervisors receive, in the complexity of the projects that we undertake, in the diversity of our constituency.

One big one is that, unlike YCC programs, we provide supervision directly for all of our programs. Whereas, in YCC, the agency must provide the supervision. This relieves their employees from having to engage in yet another task during the work year.

And perhaps the largest programmatic difference is that we offer a continuum of experience. Our program that compares most directly with YCC or with the Service Corps is our high school work group program.

But our larger program is called the Resource Assistance Program. And in this program individuals fill jobs for three to four months in a professional internship, 70 percent of the participants in which go on to careers in the conservation field, professional careers with college education.

It is that continuum from the early stimulation of interest in conservation that is derived through high-school level programs with the connection to a career path that I think makes SCA truly unique.

From a financial point of view, we bring $2.5 million a year of private sources of funding into our programs to match with the agencies' shares of funds. These private funds from foundations, corporations and individuals who donate to SCA to sponsor individuals in our program.

Our largest program to date, I might note, was the Greater Yellowstone Recovery Corps. You'll recall the big forest fires in 1988.

We put together a three-year program in cooperation with the Park Service and Forest Service to bring not only SCA high school work groups but NASC crews and other adult volunteers from across the country into Yellowstone National Park and the surrounding areas to do erosion control, type stabilization, trail restoration, bridge construction, wetland restoration and revegetation projects that have led to the substantial recovery, particularly of visitor access and particularly not so much a restoration of the effects of the fire but restoration of the effects of the firefighting in which the firefighting crews dug 1000 miles of fireline through the Park and other activities that needed physical restoration.

For the future, it seems to me there are three possible courses of action and variations on each of those.

One would simply be to reauthorize the Youth Conservation Corps as it was in its heyday. SCA, as a contractor, ran YCC crews from 1971 to 1979.

A second might simply be to correct the mistake that was made, in my opinion, in the National and Community Service Act in not providing for a separate federal lands program.

You will recall, Mr. Chairman, when the late Congressman Phil Burton and former Congressman John Sieberling and former Congressman Mo Udall were here. And this Committee attempted several times to convince the Senate and the Administration to support a separate American Conservation Corps that merged YCC and the young adult conservation corps.

When the National and Community Service Act was going through several other committees in Congress, I think, perhaps through oversight, perhaps through politics, federal land service was overlooked or given short shrift. I think that could be corrected, although that would fall under the jurisdiction of other committees.

It might be best simply to take the original YCC legislation and start over, rewrite a federal Youth Service Program on federal lands and take advantage of the fact that there are organizations now that didn't exist in 1971 and 1972 when that program came into effect, not simply reauthorize a brand-new federal bureaucracy. I don't think that's what's needed.

I think there are structures within each of the federal land-managing agencies and certainly a number of organizations, like the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps and the Student Conservation Association and other organizations, that could fill a major role in carrying out what is needed on the federal public lands.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Jarvis follows:]

STATEMENT OF T. DESTRY JARVIS, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, STUDENT CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

Mr. Chairman, and other distinguished members of the Subcommittee, I am T. Destry Jarvis, Executive Vice President of the Student Conservation Association (SCA) a national, nonprofit, non-advocacy membership organization that carries out conservation public service work in partnership with public land agencies, while providing opportunities for meaningful experiences to anyone above the age of 16. Thank you for calling this important hearing.

1992 marks the 35th anniversary of SCA's establishment, and the 35th year of our cooperative partnership with the National Park Service. This year is also the 25th anniversary of our continuing cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service, and our 10th anniversary with both the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Land Management. In 1989, we entered into a new agency agreement with the U.S. Navy for provision of conservation volunteers on Naval installations, and have done so for the past three years.

During these 35 years, SCA has placed over 20,000 volunteers in literally thousands of project sites in all fifty states. SCA High School Work Groups have constructed portions of the Continental Divide Trail; restored native vegetation to High Sierra lake shores in Yosemite; built timber bridges in national forests from Mount Baker in Washington to George Washington in Virginia; built backcountry handicapped-access trails in Yellowstone; revegetated the denuded Hazel-Peterson tract at Manassas Battlefield; and have carried out hundreds of other trail construction and maintenance assignments, disturbed site restorations, and timber and rock construction projects throughout the land.

The SCA Resource Assistant Program, our largest program, has provided career-oriented internships for thousands of college students, recent graduates and older adults while providing the agency partners with highly qualified, full-time volunteers to fulfill their missions in research, resource management, visitor information and a variety of other tasks.

Resource Assistants have worked for a number of years on various endangered species projects, assisting with research or participating as a member of a recovery team. For example, RAs have worked on the desert tortoise, spotted owl, Puerto Rican parrot, Hawaiian forest birds, peregrine falcon, and other species.

Within the High School and Resource Assistant Programs, SCA has served several special populations, including high school groups with all hearing-impaired teenagers and sign language-capable leaders, and tailoring RA positions for wheelchair-bound or blind participants.

With the Forest Service, SCA operates the Campground Administration and Maintenance Program (C.A.M.P) for developmentally delayed teens and special education qualified leaders. The teens, while often gaining their first outdoor experiences and significant opportunities for building self-esteem, perform campground maintenance, cut firewood for campers, collect fees, and engage in other useful activities.

The SCA Wilderness Work Skills Training Program is a tuition-based, five-day, hands-on field course in trail design, layout, maintenance, and construction; disturbed site/ecological restoration and revegetation; rustic timber and rock construction; hand tool use and maintenance; and backcountry camping, cooking, and hiking skills. In essence, all of the skills needed to conduct conservation service programs on public or private natural resource lands are taught in the Wilderness Work Skills Program. Typical participants, in addition to all SCA adult leaders, are agency trail and maintenance personnel, Youth Conservation Corps group leaders, state conservation corps supervisors, and state and local trail club leaders.

This year, SCA will publish the first national, comprehensive, scientifically-based, technical manual on ecological and disturbed site restoration practices. This will be an aid both to SCA programs and to other agencies or organizations engaging in this increasingly prevalent site restoration work.

SCA's newest major initiative is the Conservation Career Development Program (CCDP). CCDP is designed to bring more people of color and women into the conservation work force through the experience not only of summer field internships, but of a school-year based tracking, counseling, mentoring, training, and community public service program, coupled with financial assistance, and college orientation and placement assistance.

CCDP will broaden the pool of African-American, Hispanic-American, Asian-American, and Native American professionals in the conservation work force, through an up to six-year commitment to recruited individuals who opt to continue in the program.

At present, high schools students are recruited into CCDP in Newark, NJ, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and San Francisco, CA. College students are recruited from Historically Black Colleges, the Hispanic Association of Colleges, and other colleges with a high percentage of people of color in their student population.

CCDP participants perform identical public service conservation work to other SCA national participants, but have the added feature of the school-year career development programs and services.

While SCA program partnerships with the federal land managing agencies have been successful and continue to grow, the demand for volunteers, and the diversity of public service work on these lands that must be completed, outstrips the availability of funds to cover the federal agency share of the expenses of the program.

Attached to this Statement are a series of agency-by-agency profiles which will provide the Subcommittee with a more complete picture of the complex and diverse work which SCA performs on the federal public lands, including a series of bar graphs which depict the growth in the High School Work Group and Resource Assistant Programs over the past ten years.

Overall in 1991, 1538 SCA volunteers contributed 605,000 hours (conservative estimate) of their time to conservation public service with federal land managing agencies.

We receive approximately four volunteer applications for each position, so there is no lack of highly qualified volunteers ready to work on the public lands. We also receive about one-third more agency requests for volunteers than they can afford to cost-share with us on, so there is no lack of work to be done.

The only real limiting factor in provision of volunteers is the lack of sufficient funds within each agency and among private sector donors to cost-share program expenses.

At present, with the exception of a portion of the cost-share of the National Park Service, all of the federal agencies derive their share of SCA program costs from within their general operating, maintenance, research or resource management budgets.

In the case of the National Park Service, a substantial portion, but by no means all, of the National Park Service cost-share is derived from a line-item contained in their annual appropriation request to Congress. The National Park Service line-item request for FY 1993 stands at $687,000, the same as it has been for two years, and only a modest increase over the three years before that.

While comparisons are always risky, and fraught with intangibles, at least from inside SCA, we believe that we provide both our constituent participants and our agency partners with the highest possible quality in our program relationships.

STUDENT CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION & YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS (YCC)

First, there is no comparison between SCA's Resource Assistant Program and YCC, since neither YCC nor its sister program, the Young Adult Conservation Corps, were oriented to career-related individual placements. All comparisons must be made between the SCA High School Work Groups and the YCC program.

There has been a close relationship between SCA and the YCC since the inception of the Youth Conservation Corps program in the early 1970s. In fact the YCC can trace its origins to a campfire discussion in Olympic National Park in 1969 when the late Senator Henry M. Jackson visited an SCA High School Work Group and got a first hand impression of the SCA Experience.

Senator Jackson told SCA Executive Director Jack Dolstad that he was modeling federal legislation after the SCA program, and even suggested that SCA consider an operating agreement with the federal agencies to run the new program when the legislation was enacted.

Although SCA declined his generous offer, we did proceed to run YCC programs in several national parks, including Olympic and Yellowstone National Parks, from 1971-1979, as a contract operator to the National Park Service. In more recent years, including the 1992 field season, we have provided hands-on skills training to YCC crew leaders through our Wilderness Work Skills Training Program.

Despite similarities, there remain major differences between SCA and YCC. These can be summarized as follows:

1) Recruiting—SCA recruits and places on a national basis, not from among in-state/region youth as with most YCC programs. In fact, it is a basic requirement of all SCA national high school programs that the participants selected for each program be as ethnically, socio-economically, and geographically diverse as the applicant pool will allow. A basic requirement is that all programs be 50-50% male-female, and with no two youth from the same school in the same group.

A fundamental tenet of the SCA Experience is that the dynamics of the group—a diverse mix of strangers from widely varying backgrounds come together for 4-6 weeks and part as lifelong friends—is a significant part of the overall learning experience.

2) Supervision—SCA adult leaders are very carefully selected and are extremely qualified. We have a minimum age for leaders of 21, compared to 18 for YCC. All SCA leaders are college graduates, and must come in with a minimum of 16 hours Red Cross First Aid certification (supplemented by our in-house training). All leader applicant finalists undergo a minimum of five hour personal interview, often with a battery of SCA staff, and also must have their field skills checked out during our Work Skills training. We have dismissed potential leaders whose field performance does not match their written statements.

3) Training—SCA High School Work Group leaders undergo a rigorous training program before they are allowed to lead our participants. This training includes two courses. The first is a three day orientation covering base camp operations, safety, first aid refresher, environmental education, emergency procedures, counseling, leadership, and project management.

Second, the SCA Wilderness Work Skills Training Program (WWS) is a requirement for all SCA supervisors. SCA's training is more thorough and in-depth than is provided to most YCC crew leaders. Although some YCC leaders are now taking the WWS course, they still do not get training in such things as crisis management, counseling and environmental education.

4) Project complexity—with SCA's long-standing technical expertise in a wide variety of outdoor projects, we are prepared to take on far more complex projects than are typically assigned to YCC programs. While both SCA and YCC crews have done excellent work in recreation-related trail and campground projects, SCA also has a long-established record of successful accomplishment in ecological and disturbed site restoration, erosion control, and site stabilization projects, as well as complex log structure construction.

5) Diversity—homogeneity is far greater in the YCC. For nearly 20 years, SCA has operated an urban recruiting program that has succeeded in bringing inner city youth, primarily people of color, into the SCA Experience at the high school level. In addition, as mentioned earlier in this statement, we have operated a variety of special population positions at both the high school and college levels.

Our newest program, the Conservation Career Development Program, is designed to develop a greater cadre of people of color in the conservation professional work force. CCDP is a year-round program for its participants, and includes both a summer internship program and a school-year (weekend) program that will provide the participants with all of the experience and education necessary (as a supplement to their formal high school and college education) to make them the best qualified applicants for entry-level conservation career jobs in either the federal public land agencies conservation nonprofits, or private natural resource companies.

5) Agency coordination—management of an SCA program is also far simpler for the agency than is YCC. With an SCA high school group, the agency site coordinator has only to work out the project specifications with SCA early in the field season, or even in the preceding winter, and can turn his/her attention elsewhere, with confidence that the work will be carried out in a highly competent manner. In contrast, YCC programs require constant agency supervision, often pulling key agency personnel away from other important tasks. At a time of declining personnel in the field, this added responsibility of YCC supervision can be burdensome.

6) A continuum of experience—perhaps the greatest difference between SCA and YCC is the vast range of opportunities available to the individual participant to follow-up the SCA High School Work Group Program's outdoor/environmental education experience with more sophisticated, career-oriented experiences in other SCA programs. SCA's Resource Assistant Program is a full-time, 12–16 week, professional internship with a conservation agency. 70% of our Resource Assistants (1100 in 1991) go on to pursue a career in the conservation field.

In summary, while there are similarities, in that both SCA and YCC youth are performing public service work on the public lands, the greater sophistication and capabilities of the SCA program, coupled with the large share of private sector funding which our programs being with them, create an enormous dissimilarity.

THE FUTURE OF CONSERVATION SERVICE ON THE FEDERAL LANDS

In the course of 35 years of conservation service on the public lands, SCA has experienced extraordinary success, and is proud of its many accomplishments. Our largest project to date was management of the Greater Yellowstone Recovery Corps (GYRC), a three-year project in cooperation with the National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service. GYRC carried out a wide variety of restoration projects in Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and the six surrounding national forests needed to address the damage done by the fires and fire-fighting of 1988.

GYRC put 648 volunteers, carrying out 100,000 hours of service, in 87 project field sites. These volunteers, from 46 states, restored more than 100,000 feet of trail, rebuilt 63 burned bridges, and completed numerous erosion control and revegetation projects.

Despite our successes, SCA remains a relatively small program, constantly reeling from the budget cuts experienced by the federal agencies, and our own need to raise ever increasing matching funds from the private sector.

A substantially reorganized federal lands conservation service program—a program with stable, increased funding that relies on partnerships with nonprofit organizations, including SCA—is vitally needed.

Perhaps the simplest thing that could be done would be to reauthorize the YCC program as it existed in the 1970s. If we had it to do over again, Congress and the public constituencies for the YCC should never have allowed the original authorization to sunset.

However, I believe that various events, including both the growth in size and sophistication of SCA, the emergence of more than 70 State and local service and conservation corps during the 1980s, and the advent of the American Conservation Corps title of the National and Community Service Act have rendered this action moot, and a far more creative response is warranted today.

When Congress enacted the National & Community Service Act of 1990, with the newly-created American Conservation Corps as a separate title, the federal lands were left out. While I don't purport to have all of the answers, or even to second guess the Members of Congress who made this decision, I find it inexplicable that conservation public service on the federal public lands seems to have fallen through the proverbial crack.

One solution would be to amend the National & Community Service Act to explicitly authorize the ACC program participants, and the funding, to cover service on federal public lands. This could be through a specific authorization with an amount of funding going directly to the appropriate federal land managing agency, or as a percentage of the funding to each state where the funds are allocated.

To avoid conflict with the state's very legitimate programs, and to develop a larger base of funding to support an expanded federal lands initiative, it would be even better to authorize a new federal program, specifically combining the remnants of YCC and the Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC), with its own line-item appropriation for each user agency.

If a new federal lands program is contemplated, it should be one that explicitly envisions taking advantage of and incorporating existing programs that work in partnership with federal agencies, and that bring in private funding to cost-share with federal funding.

Obviously, such a partnership program should include the Student Conservation Association, but there are other organizations that could take advantage of this sort of new initiative. Partners in Parks and the Center for Field Studies are only two such groups, that although quite different from SCA, also provide high quality experiences for individuals and quality assistance for agencies.

Additionally, since the demise of the YCC & YACC programs in the early 1980s, more than 70 service and conservation corps have been established in numerous states. Some of these corps are fully capable of carrying out conservation service work on public lands. While only a few of these work extensively on federal lands today, this limitation is more a matter of funding than any other. Establishment of additional funding and a new authorization for work on the federal public lands could and should make provision for applicability to state and local service and conservation corps.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, the Student Conservation Association is ready, willing, and able to engage in a far larger program on the federal public lands than either we or the agencies can now afford. It is clear that the only real limiting factor is the availability of funding. Urgently needed projects exist in ever increasing numbers on the federal public lands.

Thousands of Americans, and a surprising number of foreigners, are available to work hard as volunteers on conservation projects, and to derive knowledge, a sense of accomplishment, and self-esteem from conservation work. SCA looks forward to working with you in the future as we pursue the goal of greater volunteer service on the federal public lands.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Mr. Jarvis, what do you see as the fundamental differences between the two organizations, the SCA and the YCC? I understand the YCC operates primarily on federal——

Mr. JARVIS. As do we. Our program is primarily on federal lands as is YCC.

I think there are a number of contrasts, one simply in the types of leaders. All of our crew leaders, all of our supervisors, our college graduates, they all come to the program with prior experience and youth leadership, prior experience in environmental education, and receive, before being allowed to supervise a program, extensive remedial training in first aid and youth counseling and in work skills and project management.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. But it serves really——

Mr. JARVIS. It serves the same constituency. Except that we recruit on a national basis. Whereas, most YCC crews, in any given location, were typically youth from the surrounding region if not the individual state.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, are you saying that your supervisors have to be college graduates?

Mr. JARVIS. Our supervisors, yes.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, that's quite different from the YCC.

Mr. JARVIS. Correct. I'm drawing a contrast.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. So it's really a very different constituency, not the same constituency.

Mr. JARVIS. No. The participants are not college graduates, but the supervisors——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. I understand. But the supervisors in YCC need not be college graduates.

Mr. JARVIS. That's correct.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. The supervisors in your program need to be.

Mr. JARVIS. That's correct.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. So, in the sense that your supervisors are your constituents, as Mr. Williams is a constituent of the YCC program, you serve very different constituencies; you serve college graduates.

Mr. JARVIS. No, I don't put it that way.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, I know you don't.

Mr. JARVIS. Who we serve are our young people, the high school age program participants. We serve them through our employees, who are our supervisors.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. What kind of people are they?

Mr. JARVIS. The constituents or the supervisors?

Mr. KOSTMAYER. The constituents. We know what kind of people the supervisors are.

Mr. JARVIS. We recruit in 20,000 high schools across the country. We recruit in two means.

One is by publishing, which I can supply for the record, a listing of our programs with the application material bound into the center of it. This is distributed through high school guidance counselors and science teachers. And we put up posters in high schools; we give presentations in classrooms.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, do you reach the same kinds of kids that YCC reaches?

Mr. JARVIS. 20 years ago, we did a survey of our participate pool and found we were not reaching a good solid ethnic, demographic mix. So we——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. What were you reaching?

Mr. JARVIS. We were reaching essentially middle class America.

We began, at that point, 20 years ago, an urban recruiting program in which we sent our employees into inner city urban high schools to do face-to-face classroom presentations and recruiting, meet with students individually, meet with families individually, and recruit into the SCA program for our urban high school program, a solid demographic mix of citizenry of the United States.

And over the years, largely through private funding, with very little federal funding—in many cases federal agencies would not cost-share our urban program because they felt they would not get an equal level of work out of the program—but through private funding and where it was available, so we moved it around the country from time to time, we ran our urban programs with students from inner city Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Chicago, Detroit, Denver, New York, Boston, Washington, D.C., and Atlanta.

And where the private funding was available, we recruited in those cities. We put those young people to work in the public lands.

We still maintain urban programs this year in Atlanta, working with the Forest Service on the Chattahoochee National Forest; in Seattle, working with the Forest Service on——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, would you say that your serve underprivileged or poor minority youngsters to the same extent that YCC does, or to a greater degree or to a lesser degree?

Mr. JARVIS. I don't have YCC statistics in my mind.

They did recruit on a state-by-state basis. And in those states that have that kind of a mix in the population I'm sure they serve that population.

In our program we serve the underprivileged lower-economic scale individuals in our urban program. And a year ago——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Your urban program constitutes what portion of your total program?

Mr. JARVIS. Well, of the high school program, it's roughly ten percent. There's no——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. And the other 90 percent is what?

Mr. JARVIS. The other 90 percent?

Mr. KOSTMAYER. The other 90 percent are drawn from where?

Mr. JARVIS. From the recruiting that is derived through the national recruiting effort through these 20,000 high schools that we recruit through.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. But they're not inner city high schools?

Mr. JARVIS. They are every kind of high school.

The difference is the——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. What I'm trying to get at is some kind of distinction between the folks that you serve and the folks that the YCC serves, if there is a distinction.

Mr. JARVIS. Well, I don't think in general that there is a significant distinction in the profile of the student as they come into the program, except to say that, because of the continuum of experience that we offer, we are attracting people that are attracted to the environment with the potential for following it as a career.

Now that is not the emphasis of the high school program. But participants who come into the program at the high school age are encouraged to go on and apply for a college age position in our program later on.

So that, as I said, 70 percent go on to a career in the conservation field.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Do you think there are differences in your cost effectiveness—well, maybe you could speak to your cost effectiveness as opposed to YCC's.

Mr. JARVIS. I think they're, on a per-participant basis, approximately the same, the difference being that YCC was 100 percent federally funded and we're about 40 percent privately funded and 60 percent federally funded for each individual.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Okay.

Ms. Selz, I wanted to ask you, you've talked about many of the various Youth Conservation programs throughout the country at both the state and local level.

Do you think that currently these programs can adequately serve the needs without the presence of a federal program for federal lands like the YCC?

Ms. SELZ. Could they independently?

Well, obviously not, sir.

The state and local Corps operate, to a small extent, on federal public lands. But basically they work in state parks and forests and

in city areas, in urban parks, such as the Philadelphia Ranger Corps which targets its efforts to Fairmount Park within the City of Philadelphia.

Single-handedly, no, the state and local Corps would require considerable enhancement financially and in terms of numbers. But they certainly could be an up-and-running existing vehicle for working on federal lands.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Ms. Rosenberry, you gave a figure, I think, of $1.21, $1.21 worth of conservation work for every YCC dollar spent.

Agriculture and Interior have given higher figures—$1.48 and up.

Ms. ROSENBERRY. Right.

And, as I stated, those figures were from the 1970s. My figure was $1.21 when the program has both a state grant and a federal component and during its early days. That has increased steadily as the program has become more productive and has become more established.

And it's also higher now from any studies of the existing state and local programs.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. In general, what sources of federal funding are currently available to the states and local governments for the kinds of programs you talked about in your testimony?

Ms. ROSENBERRY. Very little.

Some programs now are able to tap some Job Training Partnership Act funds, as Kathleen mentioned, and some community development block grant funds. But that's about the extent of the federal support that they can get.

And none of that would come through the resource agencies that would have the conservation work that needs to be done.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Do you want to speak to that, Ms. Selz?

Ms. SELZ. Right now, Peg just reiterated the two primary sources. Some of the——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. What does that come to—any idea? The JTP and the CDBG funding?

Ms. SELZ. Right now—there have been some considerable budget cuts at the state level. And, as I look at the profile of existing Corps, before this new infusion of federal funding, I figure there's about $100 million nationwide.

I would estimate that no more than 20 percent of that, at the absolute top, are dollars that have some kind of federal origin, be they JTPA, CDBG or access to perhaps some trails money by state transportation agencies. It is still a modest amount.

If any of the Corps directors here have a more specific estimate, I'd appreciate hearing it.

Mr. BERNHEIMER. California has far less than that.

Ms. SELZ. Well, no, some of the local Corps depend rather significantly on JTPA, so I'm——

Mr. SLOBIG. Percentage wise, in the aggregate, $100 million——

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, they may get a large percentage from JTPA but it's not a lot of money.

Ms. SELZ. Right.

Mr. SLOBIG. We heard from Mr. Bernheimer that $51 million out of that $100 million is in California alone.

Mr. BERNHEIMER. The only federal money that would be in that is any reimbursement we've done to federal agencies, and their total reimbursement is five million dollars.

So we're probably looking at—if a million dollars comes out of transfers, that's probably it. Maybe one million of the $50 million.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. So funding remains the key.

Ms. SELZ. Mr. Chairman, we can certainly get you a more accurate answer to that question.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. We'd appreciate that.

Ms. SELZ. We'll be doing a survey very, very soon to get baseline data before the federal money hits in June.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, I want to thank all of the witnesses very much.

Mr. Jarvis.

Mr. JARVIS. If I may respond to a question that you asked of the Park Service earlier in this hearing, when the legs were cut out from under the YCC funding by the Reagan Administration in the mid-1980s, the Park Service was told that if it wanted to sustain a YCC program, it would have to take that money out of other existing accounts.

And, as you know, the Park Service budget is a line item account, for the most part, except for what's called the ONPS, Operations of the National Park System account, which is a large unit by unit of the Park System Operating account.

And some parks chose to maintain a YCC program out of their allocation from the ONPS account, but very few. They felt that it was competing directly with line items for maintenance, line items for resource management, line items for research, line items for visitor education and interpretation.

And, unless there is a specific line item once again for YCC or anything like that, it will never come back to the level at which it operated in the 1970s. Because it will always be out-competed, in their internal priority-setting—not in importance, not in significance to the greater good of the country, but in their internal priority-setting, it will never come out sufficiently tied to go back to that level of funding again. So the Congress is going to have to tell them in a specific authorization with a specific appropriation that that needs to be done, or it just won't happen.

Mr. KOSTMAYER. Well, that's our intention.

I appreciate your testimony. I appreciate the testimony of all the witnesses.

Thank you very much.

The Subcommittee stands adjourned.

[Whereupon, the above-entitled proceeding was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.]

APPENDIX

MARCH 31, 1992

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE HEARING RECORD

COMMISSION ON NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

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Executive Director

July 21, 1992

The Honorable Peter H. Kostmayer
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Environment
of the Insular Affairs Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

During the testimony of our Chairman, Pete McCloskey, before your Subcommittee on March 31, 1992, he was asked how much flexibility the Commission has in making Subtitle C (American Conservation and Youth Service Corps) grant awards to States and Indian tribes. Since we had not made any decisions on corps applications at that time, Mr. McCloskey responded that we would be in a better position to answer that question after we had completed our award process. That has now happened, and accordingly we would like to submit the following answer to your question for the record.

The response we received to our request for applications under Subtitle C was extensive. Altogether, 46 States (including the District of Columbia), 21 Indian tribes, three territories and nine local organizations applied. After an extensive review that utilized outside reviewers, the Board awarded grants to corps in 25 States as well as five operated by Indian tribes. Because of the level of funding appropriated for Subtitle C in fiscal year 1992 ($22.5 million), the Board was not able to award grants to a number of promising proposals, and made reduced awards to others.

Our awards were announced on June 8, 1992. The Board has adopted a policy that allows unsuccessful applicants to request reconsideration, and, to date, one State has requested reconsideration under Subtitle C. Our policy provides that if the Board decides to reverse its decision, it will look to see if there is any money left in the relevant Subtitle allocation. If there is not (as is the case in Subtitle C), the Board will then consider whether there is sufficient money left in the discretionary funds account. If not, the Board will consider allocating funds during the next fiscal year.

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The American Conservation and Youth Service Corps provisions contained in the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-610, as amended) are quite detailed and contain numerous requirements. Although this has the beneficial effect of giving clarity and content to our program, it has the negative effect of curtailing Commission discretion and initiative in some cases. As an example, the Act authorizes Commission funding for year-round and summer corps that are full-time, but not part-time. We have received a number of comments and requests from corps that would like funding for part-time corps. We are not authorized to fund such programs under our legislation. There are pending, however, proposed amendments to our Act that would, among other things, authorize funding for part-time corps (S. 2621). Another example of lack of flexibility is the provision in our legislation that requires post-service benefits for all participants. Most corps that operate summer programs have not provided post-service benefits for summer participants, since their service with the corps is only for a few months. Summer corps have had to alter their programs in order to be eligible to apply for funding.

Since this is our first year of operation, the Board has not considered whether it should request additional changes in the statutory requirements related to Subtitle C. After we have had an opportunity to evaluate the performance of the programs that we have funded, we may wish to consider whether greater flexibility is called for.

Sincerely,

Dick Trafford

for Catherine Milton
Executive Director

National Association of
Service & Conservation Corps

July 24, 1992

The Honorable Peter H. Kostmayer
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I apologize for the delay in responding to your question regarding the amount of federal funding that youth service and conservation corps receive. As promised I included that question in our annual survey of the NASCC membership. Many of the 65 corps programs have not yet returned their completed surveys, so at this point I am only able to share information on 23 urban corps or roughly half of the local corps in existence. These 23 corps are funded for a total of 2,851 corpsmember slots annually -- approximately 15% of the estimated total number of slots in youth corps programs nationwide. These 23 corps report total funding of $29,187,000 with $3,656,610 or 12.5% coming from two federal sources, JTPA and CDGB. I expect that this figure fairly accurately represents the federal funding status of all urban corps.

However, it is the statewide conservation corps which have the bulk of the corpsmember slots in the country. I regret that we do not have sufficient responses from the 20 statewide corps to make even a ballpark estimate of their level of federal funding. I shall convey this information to you just as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Selz
Executive Director

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